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No. 10.

## A Few American Bee-Editors.



No. 1—Ernest R. Root.

No. 1.—Mr. Ernest R. Root was born at Medina, Ohio, June 23, 1862. For a number of years he has been the real editor of the apian part of *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*, and is probably the most widely known of the group shown on this page.

No. 2.—Mr. W. Z. Hutchinson, editor of the *Bee-Keepers' Review*, was born in Orleans county, N. Y., Feb. 17, 1851. He has attended more bee-conventions, and has been elected Secretary of them more often, than any other prominent



No. 3—L. D. Stilson.

bee-keeper of to-day. He is now the Secretary of the North American.

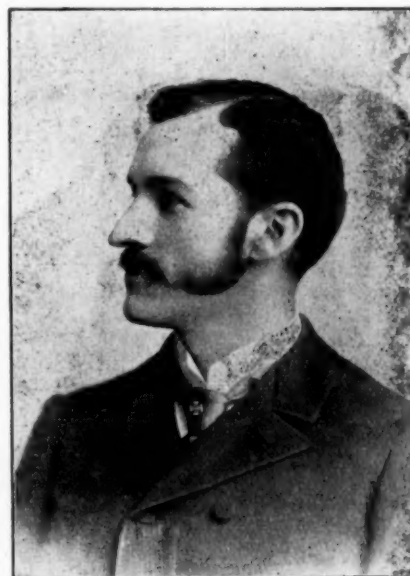
No. 3.—Mr. L. D. Stilson, editor of the *Nebraska Bee-Keeper*, and Vice-President of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association, was born in Alden, N. Y., July 26, 1839. Besides his editorial work, he lectures on bees in the Nebraska State University and at various Farmers' Institutes.

No. 4.—Mr. R. F. Holtermann was born in Hamburg, Germany, June 14, 1860. He is editor of the *Canadian Bee Journal*, and President of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association. He speaks German, and is fairly well acquainted with French. You can see him in Toronto—next September, I believe.



No. 4—R. F. Holtermann.

No. 5.—Modesty forbids saying more of the last one represented than that he was born two miles south of Alliance, Ohio, Feb. 21, 1862—which makes him almost twin brother to No. 1.



No. 5—George W. York.



No. 2—W. Z. Hutchinson.

## How to Increase Bees When Natural Swarming is Not Wanted.

BY G. M. DOOLITTLE.

A correspondent writes me that he has 40 colonies of bees, and that his business is to be such the coming summer that he cannot be at home in the middle of the day during swarming time, and wishes me to tell how he can manage so as to increase his bees and still have them do good work in storing comb honey. As I have many similar letters to this, I will give what I would reply to each, in the columns of the American Bee Journal.

After trying nearly every plan of artificial increase which has ever been given, I am satisfied that none of them will give as good results as will natural swarming; but where one is situated as is the writer of the above, of course a substitute for the good old way will have to be resorted to. Knowing that there were times when increase other than natural swarming would be very desirable, I kept a record of all my experiments while trying the various plans of making swarms, as given at different times to the public, and, according to my views, the two following come the nearest to nature's way of any now before the world.

The first plan I have practiced quite extensively for years, but prefer the last under conditions suited to its use. All the particular difference there is in the two plans is that, with the latter, a new queen is given to the swarm, leaving the old one to continue to do duty in the old hive, while with the former the old queen goes with the swarm, the same as she does in natural swarming, thus leaving the bees to rear a queen of their own. By giving each part a laying queen, quite a gain is made, still this first plan is a good one where one cannot rear the queens before he makes the swarms, or feels too poor to buy them. None of the plans of artificial increase should be used till the hive is quite well filled with bees, and the bees themselves are preparing for swarming.

When the proper time has arrived, go to any colony from which you wish to take a swarm, and after having removed the cover and quilt or honey-board, drive the bees out of the way with a little smoke so that you can shave the cappings off from some of the sealed honey at the tops of the frames, unless you think they have plenty of unsealed honey in the hive. Just previous to doing this, you should find the queen and cage her so you can put your hand on the cage just when you like.

Having both of the above done, close the hive and beat on it with the fist, at the same time blowing smoke in at the entrance, just enough to frighten back the guards as they come out to drive off the intruder. Having the guards all turned back, give the hive several sharp blows, enough to cause the bees to thoroughly fill themselves with honey; and if more than one swarm is to be made, go to the next hive and prepare them in the same way, while the first are filling themselves; otherwise you will have to wait till the bees have their sacs full. When this is accomplished, set the cap of any hive, or any box will do, on a wide board a little way off from the old hive, and proceed to shake the bees off the frames till you think you have about three-fourths of them, shaking them in front of the cap or box on the wide board, into which they will run as fast as they are shaken off, if the same is raised up a bee-space on the side next to where they are shaken.

Lastly, take the frame having the queen in the cage on it, remove the cage and shake the bees off from it and, while they are running in, release the queen and let her run in with them so she will be with the made swarm. Now close the hive, when the returning bees from the field, and what were left on the combs and about the hive, will make the old colony in about the same condition it would have been in had it cast a swarm.

Next take the cover having the bees in it; carry it to the shade of some tree, and after setting it down, lean it up against the tree with the open side out, exposed to the light. Leave them thus while you are making other swarms, or for about an hour to an hour and a half, when they will conclude they are a separate colony, and will behave just like a natural swarm, having clustered in the box the same as a swarm does on a limb. Now give them the same as you would a natural swarm, and they will work the same, or as nearly so as is possible to have bees do outside of natural swarming.

The next way, and the one which I prefer where I have laying queens to spare, is to proceed the same as above till you get ready to shake off the bees, when they are to be shaken into a box instead of into a cap. This box is to be made of a size to hold about a half bushel, the two sides of which are to be of wire cloth, one permanently nailed on, and the other to have the wire cloth nailed to four small strips so that four

small nails, one through the center of each strip, will hold it fast to the box, yet make it readily removable when you wish to get the bees out. In the top of the box is to be bored a hole of the right size to admit the small end of a large funnel, such as is used in putting up bees by the pound, and over this hole is to be fixed a slide so that it can be closed as soon as the bees are in.

Having the box and funnel, proceed to shake the same amount of bees down through it into the box as you did in the former case in front of the cap; but instead of putting the queen with the bees in the box, let her run back into the hive. Now carry the box of bees to some cool place, preferably in the dark, and leave them undisturbed for four hours, when you are to go and get the spare queen, from one of your nuclei, or otherwise, and after going where the box of bees is, jar the bees to the bottom of the box, by setting it on the floor suddenly, so that they will not be running out while you are putting in the queen, and immediately let the queen run through the hole into the box. Now close the hole and leave the bees till sunset or the next morning, when you find them clustered and ready for hiving, the same as a natural swarm would be, having accepted the queen which you gave them, as their own mother. Hive as before and the work is done.

It is well in either case to give the newly-hived swarm a frame of brood from the old hive to start them with, and make matters seem more home-like. In using this latter plan it is best to take the bees between the hours of 8 and 10 a. m. if it can possibly be done at that time. In writing this out it seems like a good deal of work, but where making many swarms the work goes on rapidly, as the bees are filling themselves while you are working, so there is no waiting. In this way swarms can be made about as fast as natural swarms could be cared for, while they work nearly as well after they are made.

Borodino, N. Y.



## The Production of Comb Honey.

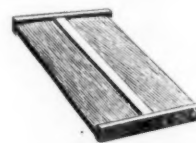
The fourth of a series of articles on this subject.

BY EMERSON T. ABBOTT.

### THE FLAT HIVE COVER,

which is used on the dovetailed hive, is, to my mind, another of our modern blunders, and is therefore objectionable in the production of comb honey. First, it is hard to keep it on the hive, if not stuck fast with propolis, and, if it is, it is hard to remove it without jarring the hive more than is desirable. The main objection which I have to it is that it does not give space enough above the sections. This is a very serious one in a warm climate. With a flat cover fitting down within  $\frac{1}{4}$  or  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch of the sections, and no shade, the super will be so hot that the bees cannot remain at work in it during the heat of the day. There is no question, in my mind, but what a thin honey-board with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch bee-space between it and the sections is the very best covering that can be had for the sections. With a cover so constructed that there is an inch or more of space above this honey-board, the hive will always be cool enough for the bees to work in the supers, and I should not think of using any other kind of a cover.

Another objection to the flat cover is, it is constantly warping and getting out of shape, so it will not fit down snugly on the hive.



The Higginsville Hive-Cover.

The so-called improved cover, as shown in the illustration, which has been lately introduced, seems to me to have all the objectionable features of the old flat covers, and nothing to render it more desirable. It is true it has sloping sides, but of what benefit are they? Every hive should slant to the front with a sufficient pitch to run off all of the water from the cover. This slope aids the bees greatly in cleaning out the hive, and in defending it against robbers. It also keeps the water from beating in at the entrance, and aids in the removal of the moisture which may accumulate in the hive during cool weather. Of what use are the sloping sides on a hive slanted to the front in this way?

About the only thing that can be said in its favor is that it will let the water run off at the sides instead of the ends,



as the end cleats extend above the cover boards. If slanted in this way and not kept well painted, it will catch water in the crack formed at the union of the cover cleat and the top boards, and will soon rot out. I see, since writing the above that Dr. Miller claims that this cover will not warp, "for two pieces will seldom if ever agree to twist together." No, but they do not need to do this in order to get the cover out of shape—one will go one way and one the other way, and the mischief is done.

About as good an arrangement as can be made for a cover is a rim about two inches wide, made to fit any part of the hive, and having two boards for a top cover, with a strip of bent zinc fitted in saw-kerfs, to cover the crack. Of course such top-boards should be cut out of well-seasoned lumber, and they should be nailed on properly and kept well painted. If any of these precautions are neglected, they will cause trouble. I have had them in use for years and none of them have ever given me any trouble when made out of well-seasoned lumber and properly nailed. Many times they are not driven up properly before they are nailed, and then there is sure to be a bad crack soon.

It would seem that I had offered enough objections to this dovetailed hive, but I have one more which is not quite so serious. I do not like the surplus arrangement.

#### I REFER TO THE SECTION-HOLDERS.

I tried these several years before the above hive was made and decided I did not want them. They were made by the Falconer Mfg. Co. I very much prefer the pattern slat which rests on a flange made inside of the super, with boards at the end. If I used them without separators, they were always getting out of shape. As I do not believe it pays to go to the expense of using separators, I long since discarded the section-holder. They are very good with separators.

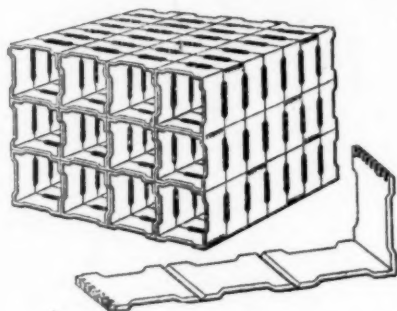
#### THE BOTTOM-BOARD,

of this hive, is all right, as I do not see how a man who handles a large number of colonies of bees can get along with a bottom-board nailed fast to the hive. It is very convenient to have it so it can be removed when desired, and it can be fastened so securely and with so little expense by the use of the Van Deusen clamp, or simple hooks, that I am led to wonder why any other kind but a loose bottom is made. No, not that it is made, for the factories make what the people want, but I am greatly surprised that anyone who has a desire to have things convenient should want anything but a loose bottom-board.

As to

#### HOW MANY STORIES HIGH

a hive should be, it depends entirely, in my opinion upon the strength of the colony and the length of the honey-flow. No one should think of beginning the season with less than four



supers for each strong colony. If the honey-flow lasts any great length of time, it will be better to have six, or even more. I am persuaded that during a good honey-flow it is about as easy to get six supers filled, if properly manipulated, as it would be to get two filled, if there is only one super used at a time, and each is left on until entirely filled. Here is where I believe in large hives—large in the upper story; the larger the better, provided the bees go up and occupy them. If there is ever a time when the saying, "Give the bees room according to their strength" is true, it is during a rapid honey-flow. Of course, it requires the exercise of some judgment to know when to commence enlarging the hive, and how fast to enlarge it; but, in my opinion, it will win every time, if properly managed.

The super which has the least number of loose parts about it, and one which will give the bees access to every part of it direct from the hive, suits me the best. The bees should have the same direct communication with the outside row of

sections that they have with any other, if one expects them to finish up the outside sections properly.

As I do not advocate the use of separators, I prefer the

#### SECTIONS OPEN ON FOUR SIDES,

as explained by Mr. Oliver Foster in his book on "Comb Honey." (See illustration below.)

This gives a connected passage through every part of the super. The bees can conserve the heat better where sections are so arranged. They will enter the super more readily and will fill out the sections on all sides in better shape. By using full sheets of foundation which come within  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch of the section on each side and at the bottom, there will rarely be any sections bulged so they cannot be crated all right with a little care. Those which are bulged, if any, can be sold at home, and I am sure the loss and bother will not be as great as the cost of separators. Such sections require a little more care in cleaning, but not enough to add materially to the cost of the honey.

I also prefer a super that fits down over the body at least at the sides by means of a shallow rabbet or a bevel. Such a super is not so apt to be left out of place, rests on the hive more snugly, and does not leave a crack. I say again, I could never think of tolerating a square joint, and I feel sure the time will come when the majority of those who have bees will agree with me; for, as I said before, our ideas about things operate very much as fads in fashion do. They come and go.

St. Joseph, Mo.

(To be continued.)



### How I Managed to Get a Good Crop of Honey When Others About Failed.

BY C. H. STORDOCK.

It may look singular to any person reading the report of the Northern Illinois convention on page 53, that I should get a fair crop of honey, and those near me report almost a failure. But after I have explained the matter, I do not think it will look so strange.

In the first place, I think I have a good location, being just across the Illinois and Wisconsin line, in the Sugar River valley. My honey was gathered from basswood and heart's-ease. White clover was almost a total failure. So all I can tell about how I did it, is that I think I have good bees, a good location, and attended to my business when I ought to. I gave the bees all the room they required. I use the 10-frame Langstroth or Simplicity hive, with two extracting-supers to each hive; my honey was all extracted.

Another point is to have the colonies strong when the honey season begins. The way I do is this: When my bees begin to swarm, I proceed in this manner: As soon as the swarm is all out, I set the old hive back two or three feet, put a hive filled with foundation or combs on the old stand, and as soon as the swarm is in the new (I clip my queens), if it is a strong one, I open the old hive, shake or brush off the bees, and let them enter the new hive. If the swarm is a small one I leave the combs four or five days (by first moving the old hive to one side and a little back of the new one), before shaking the bees off, then cut the queen-cells off and give the combs of brood to the weakest colony in the yard, by first removing all the combs that have no brood, and so on till my colonies are all strong. By this plan a weak colony will have 10 combs of brood, and will be a strong one.

When my colonies are all strong enough, and more swarms issue, instead of giving the brood to other colonies, I leave the old hive near the old stand from five to seven days, then carry it to a new stand, *a la* Heddon.

I generally unite two such colonies by placing one on top of the other, with a queen-excluder between; in such a colony I rear two queens—one in the lower and one in the upper story.

In managing bees in this way a person will not get much increase, but honey, and not a large number of colonies is what I am working for.

My honey crop for 1893 was 15,340 pounds from 92 colonies.

Durand, Ill.



### North American Bee-Keepers' Association.

BY E. S. LOVESY.

What can be done, if anything, to increase the usefulness of the North American Bee-Keeper's Association to the bee-industry, and its benefits to the members? I heartily endorse

the editor's remarks on page 423 (1894), and also those of Mr. Richardson on page 690. I think it is plain to every thinking mind that the North American should cut a larger swath; then, if it is possible to adopt some plan by which a respectable number of the bee-keepers of the country could be induced to identify themselves with the Association, it certainly should be done. I believe that if some of our prominent bee-keepers will interest themselves in this matter, and agitate the subject, much good may come of it, and cause the Association to take a great step forward. To accomplish this, I fully agree with Editor York and Mr. Richardson, that more meetings and more scope should be given the Association.

To illustrate: I would be in favor of dividing the whole country in four grand divisions, with one as headquarters and three branch associations. Suppose we say for No. 1, all that part of the country lying east of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, and east of Lakes Erie and Ontario and the St. Lawrence river. No. 2, all between and north of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, including Ontario and Quebec. No. 3 all west of the Mississippi river and south of the north line of Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Utah, Nevada and California. No. 4, all west of the Mississippi river and north of the line of those states named, including British Columbia. Those divisions would meet near the center of the country. If any thing comes of this, those lines could be fixed by the Association. I simply illustrate the matter.

Now, then, suppose the headquarters was moved from one division to another each year, and the president of each branch association was a vice-president of the parent association; then if each grand division held two meetings each year, and supposing there were ten states or districts in each division, and the presidents of the State associations were vice-presidents of the associations in their respective divisions, and in turn if each county president was a vice-president in the State associations, it would come very near making one grand, harmonious whole, and all bee-keepers taking an interest in them could feel that they were a part of the great North American Bee-Keepers' Association.

Friends, shall we try to do something to endeavor to create more interest and a more fraternal feeling among our bee-keepers? I presume all will admit that something of the kind is needed—it is needed for the protection of our common interest, such as producing and disposing of the product of the honey-bee, and to preserve them against their enemies, etc. Our bee-keepers, like the rest of mankind generally, join the association more or less for the benefits that they expect to receive; then, in order to be successful, each association should take an interest in and try to adopt plans or methods for the benefit of its paying members.

Now suppose there were more associations and more meetings, would it not create a spirit of good-natured rivalry to excel each other in disseminating knowledge for the benefit of the whole? I have no personal interest in this matter, only a desire for the general good. One reason for throwing out these few general outlines is, whether anything comes of this agitation or not, I wish to see the West and South stand up and be counted with the balance of the country. While some of our bee-keepers may be more or less selfish, they are nearly all good-natured, and if some system could be adopted that would cause more meetings and more greetings, then, as they became better acquainted with each other, it would have a tendency to smooth down the rough spots, and as they would oftener meet to shake hands and exchange kindly greetings, they would be induced to form higher and better opinions of each other. As for myself, I consider this far above worldly wealth, for who would sell, if they could, those kind memories of the past?

Again, looking to the benefits that may be obtained by a move in this direction, we could at least have the question-box for the benefit of our bee-keepers, with much more satisfaction than they have now. The best method for wintering was asked for at the Chicago meeting, and "What can we do with foul brood?" was asked at St. Joseph. Where are the answers to those vital questions? Echo answers, "Where?"

I have had many inquiries of late in regard to lucerne. While I cannot vouch for what it may, or may not, do in the East, I believe it will do well in the South. It is one of the very best paying crops here. One of our bee-keepers, Mr. Eastman, who has been a near neighbor to Dr. Miller, spent a few days with me in December. He was astonished when he looked at the slick coats of my horse and cow, when I informed him that I fed them exclusively on lucerne. My five best colonies of bees, the past season, gathered 1500 pounds of honey, mostly from lucerne.

If possible, I would like to hear from some of those I sent seed to last spring. Salt Lake City, Utah.

## The Size of Hives and Frames.

BY W. C. GATHRIGHT.

I have been much interested in the articles on hive construction by F. L. Thompson and Edwin Bevins. I would be glad to hear what others have to say who have tried those deeper frames.

I like the 8-frame width for several reasons. It is easier to handle, takes so much less room in hauling and shipping bees, and, last and most important of all is, it seems to be *wide enough* for any colony of bees. But it is not deep enough to hold all the brood and bees a good queen can produce. Make the frames 2 inches deeper, and I believe that 8-frames will be much better than 10 Langstroth size, or 8 frames, either.

I am aware of the fact that the majority of the answers to Query 950 say no, but with such bee-men as the Dadants on my side, I feel pretty safe.

The objection made by some, to deep frames are, 1st. That they are not so easily handled; 2nd. They are not so good for comb honey as shallow frames; 3rd. They don't want two sizes of frames in the apiary; 4th. They are not the "Standard."

In regard to the first objection, I say I believe I can handle 8 deep frames quicker than I can 10 shallow ones. Bear in mind I am speaking of frames of brood, not honey. I would not recommend frames of this depth for extracting.

The theory seems to be that the deeper the frame, the more trouble it is to get it out without killing bees, but so long as the frame is considerably longer than it is deep, the difference is so small as to hardly be noticeable. But suppose you make the frame as deep, or deeper than it is long, then there would be trouble.

2nd. My experience teaches me that plenty of bees for the honey-flow is of more importance than any other one thing. Then, as the deeper frame winters bees better, is more suited to the queen's requirements, affording her room to lay her eggs in a circle without having to cross a bee-space and nearly  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches of wood, I ask why is it not so good for comb-honey?

3rd. I wonder how many bee-keepers there are who extract from the brood-chamber—I do not, and I don't know of any who do. Half-depth frames seem to be gaining favor. With brood-frames  $11\frac{1}{4}$  in. deep, our half-depth frames would be  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches, allowing  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. for bee-space. This I think would be a much better size than the half-depth Langstroth frame, which is, I think, entirely too narrow. The regular standard simplicity frame would be good to use in the supers for extracting, and I would think very seriously before discarding it for something else.

4th. As Mr. Thompson has quite covered the ground on this point and some others that I have omitted (See page 595; Nov. 8, 1894), I will skip over this.

I think this line would be quite interesting and profitable for experiment, and should it be demonstrated that something else is better than the standard size, let us begin to work toward it and ere long the best will be the standard. We are living in a progressive age, and bee-keepers, of all others, should not be satisfied to merely follow in the old ruts of those who have gone before, but strive to attain to the highest point of perfection in the science of our beloved pursuit.

Cameron, Tex.



## A Consideration of the Bee for Business.

BY DR. J. P. H. BROWN.

That type or variety of bees that can obtain or collect the greatest amount of nectar is unquestionably the most profitable for the bee-keeper.

A novice judging from the advertisements of five-banded bees, would at once infer that they were a new variety. Such is not the case. They are only the pure Italians, or a cross with Cyprian blood, bred up. Besides, the queens do not invariably produce all five-banded workers, but often more three or four banded.

I like to see a beautiful yellow bee. They look nice. "A thing of beauty is a joy forever." It is really a grand sight to see a lot of young golden beauties playing out—taking their first fly in front of their hive on a clear, sunny day, with the light peering through their yellow bands.

Now for a bit of bee-history: I got my first Italians in 1870. I purchased queens from a number of different breeders. I got queens from Mr. Alley that produced very yellow-banded workers—some showed four and five bands; while those from Dr. Hamblin (long since dead) bred workers



with leather-colored bands. These had great individuality of character and left their impress in my apiary for some generations. The Alley stock was shorter lived.

I commenced to import the most of my breeding stock direct from Italian breeders; and since then I have imported hundreds of queens, and spared no expense nor pains to breed up to the greatest perfection.

By a careful and persistent effort to breed from light-colored queens and yellow drones, I gradually bred out the dark, and in a few years I had a bright-yellow banded bee, many of which showed four and five bands. But as I progressed in the development of yellow bands I found I had approached a point where the capacity for honey-gathering diminished, while the leather-colored queens and workers, like the Hamblin strain, were my best honey-gatherers.

In breeding for beauty, the honey-gathering qualities are too prone to be ignored. These qualities require muscular development—power of wing and energy. It is a law governing animal culture that the highest attainments can only be secured at the expense of other qualities. In the human species the greatest intellectuality is attained at the expense of muscular development and at a diminution of fecundity. Hence, unless the physical qualities required to enable the bees to be good foragers be kept in view in breeding, it is very easy to produce an enervated strain.

Excessive swarming is the bane of the honey-producer, and such traits should form no part of the bee for business. Cyprians and Syrians are notorious swarmers, and this trait will crop out in their crosses with other varieties for generations. But I want no non-swarming variety of *Apis mellifica*, if honey is any object. God has implanted the propensity in the bee as a collateral means of perpetuating the species. It carries with it a desire to provide, accumulate, and hoard up for a time of want.

I have already stated that a yellow bee can be developed from pure Italians by a system of careful breeding. It can be more quickly accomplished by the introduction of Cyprian blood. Such crosses are bright and beautiful, and the yellow shows to great perfection. Many of them have a bright yellow crescent-shaped spot or shield on top of their thorax between the wings. But this mark is often found on well-bred Italians. The best test of Cyprian blood is their behavior when the hive is opened. They are quick to resent an insult, and when smoke is applied to them, they dance around, turn one end and then the other, and *dare* the smoke! They will only retreat when the smoke approaches fire. When panic-stricken, they will desert their combs and take to the sides of the hive.

I do not consider the imported queens from Italy, at present, any better than our home-bred ones. They average much lighter in color than those received years ago. During the furor for Cyprians in this country, they were also introduced into Italy and no doubt have crossed with their bees. For more information in regard to the varieties of the honey-bee, I refer the reader to an essay of mine on "The Geographical Distribution of the Honey-Bee," read at the North American Bee-Keepers' convention at Lexington, Ky., in 1881, and published in the November number of the American Bee Journal for the same year.

I have not penned the above with any desire to champion any of the parties concerned in the Atchley-Quigley-Doolittle controversy. We all have our ideal queen standard. Tastes differ. The interest of the honey-producer and the queen-breeder should be mutual. In the matter of queens, *merit* should rule, but it often unfortunately falls to the rear—slips out of the dictionary—and a conglomerate mass of brag, gas and cheek takes its place.

Augusta, Ga.



## Bee-Literature According to the Heddon Idea.

BY J. W. HOFFMAN.

MR. EDITOR:—Being a journalist of many years' experience, a constant and attentive reader of your valuable journal, and a "bee-crank," as the saying goes, I became peculiarly interested in the essay of Mr. James Heddon, on "Apicultural Literature," read before the Michigan State convention of bee-keepers, and published on page 99.

After reading Mr. Heddon's effusion through twice, very carefully, I failed to perceive why that topic should have been assigned to him for discussion. If for his wisdom and literary accomplishments, it certainly was a mistake, as he has allowed his evident love for invectives and innuendo to get the better of his judgment, while his bombastic and unpolished style is anything but pleasing.

If the topic was assigned to him on account of his knowledge and experience as one of the "spinal column of our business," as he is pleased to "dub" the honey-producers, and

consequently his supposed ability to tell a bee-editor how to edit a bee-journal, and thus be the means of lifting the apicultural literature from the quagmire of degeneracy, and placing it among the journals of a realm where only royal jelly is served—then I am too dull, for I cannot see where the gentleman has shown the ability to make even an intelligent suggestion. He has not pointed out clearly and distinctively in what particular essential apicultural literature is degenerated or deficient, and he has certainly indicated no well-defined reform or policy through which it could possibly be brought to a higher standard. To sum it all up, I regard the essay as a mass of uncalled-for and intemperate criticism, out of which may be sifted a few vague hints, which seem more like stabs at some one else, over the editor's shoulder, than as a means of improving bee-literature.

I am not acquainted with Mr. Heddon, but I take it for granted that he is a gentleman who is respected in the community where he resides, and by those with whom he associates, and anything I say in this connection must not be considered as a personal reflection. Permit me to say, however, that if I read him correctly, he is one of those characters who love to chuckle over what they have written—who delight to tease the worm to see it wriggle and squirm, but without meaning any harm. If he ever mounts the rostrum, his arms are more eloquent than his tongue.

Now, Mr. Editor, let me tell you how to improve your journal according to the Heddon idea:

1st. In order to be thoroughly competent to write and select articles on apicultural subjects, you must at once become one of the "spinal column of our business," i. e., a bee-keeper or honey-producer. Put in your order at once for at least 1,000 queens, and 4,000 pounds of bees, including all the latest styles in color and number of bands, and every known race. You must not buy any hives, frames, sections, foundation or other supplies, as that would help some supply dealer, but you must make them yourself—buy the raw material, lumber, etc., and make them by hand; this will give you practice—and you must become thoroughly practical, in order to be able to edit a bee-paper.

You must also have a laboratory equipped with all the latest appliances for making chemical and microscopical tests; and a library containing every known work on the subject of Apiculture, and you must read nothing else—that must be your only intellectual food; and be sure to have a copy of "Heddon's Essays" constantly on your desk. Your physical diet must also be carefully regulated in the interest of apiculture—eat honey, plenty of it, eat it three times each day, and every day in the year; and bees, too, worker-bees and drones (in season) on week days, and a queen or two for Sunday dinner. This will stimulate the market, and help out the "spinal column of our business."

You must be among your bees, in the laboratory, the library, the workshop, all day and every day, observing, experimenting, making tests, reading up, or making hives, etc. Your heavy articles you must only attempt to write by midnight oil, at which time you will be fully loaded with bee-knowledge, and all will be still within and without, save perchance the screeching of the owl.

If you have been in the habit of "sticking" a few type to help make both ends meet, or going out among business men to solicit an "ad.," or to attend to any other business matter, stop it! this is menial. Your position is higher; you must only read, write, think, and talk about bees and honey—all the other drudgery you must leave to hired help. Never mind the cost.

2nd. Be very careful about publishing any communications or articles from other bee-men. First get their pedigree, and no matter how extensive and varied their observation and study into the mysteries of apiculture, and hence no matter how valuable and interesting their communications might be, if they are not actually a part of the "spinal column of our business," bar them out! Queen-breeders, experimenters and inventors of new appliances must absolutely have no chance to say a word through your columns—they are the *drones* of apiculture!

Every article that you do publish, you must comment on copiously, criticise mercilessly, both as to style of composition and as to the views or facts stated; and if your correspondent happens to be deficient in grammar or spelling, don't revise, but take off your gloves, and your shirt, if necessary, and roast him to a turn! Your comments should appear in the body of the article immediately following the paragraph to which they refer, and always in bold-face or italics, so they will stand out in marked contrast to the scribbling of your correspondent; and this, you know, would also produce a grand typographical effect—chromatic printing might be still more awe-inspiring. Your comments must be written in a

style of haughty grandeur, extremely technical, and wherever possible use Latin and French terms, and an abundance of irony and sarcasm!

At first glance you may not see the wisdom of such editorial work, therefore let me explain. Your problem is, to lift the apicultural literature of to-day from a state of partial degradation, and put it back to that standard of perfection as Bro. Heddon saw it, "years ago" (I suppose he refers to the time when "bee-gums" were in fashion). Now, in order to accomplish this—in order to eliminate this *foul brood*, stifle this *paralysis*, exterminate these *drones* and *parasites* which threaten the "spinal column of our business," an heroic treatment must necessarily be adopted. You must impress upon your readers, and especially your correspondents, your own perfect and superior knowledge of everything pertaining to apiculture; they must realize how little and insignificant they appear beside such an intellectual giant! And the effect of it? Why, you would see it at once, in your bank account, and in your subscription list (i. e., if your subscribers do not pay too far in advance!). This course might not agree very well with your own spinal column—but the other? Why, bless you, my dear fellow, there is no telling how much "the spinal column of our business" would be benefitted by such an elevating of the apicultural literature of to-day!

3rd. The last and most important reform, which you must inaugurate in order that your journal may attain and maintain that high degree of excellence and perfection, and one which would cause the bleeding heart of every member of the aforesaid spinal column (not yours) to leap into his or her throat for joy, has reference to the mechanical and business departments—which I can put in a few words, viz.:

Increase the size and volume of your journal to twice its present size and capacity; print only on extra-sized and super calendered book-paper, of the finest quality and of heavy weight; illuminated cover, with a fresh lithographic illustration of an apicultural character on the title page of each number; raise your subscription price to \$5.00 per annum, and your advertising rates to \$4.00 per agate line—per insertion—no discount for large space or long time contracts! The advertising columns of your journal would soon be changed into sweetness and purity, white and clean as the driven snow with the mercury at 30 below. You might have difficulty in making both ends come together well, but this you could easily overcome by supplying a few extra links whenever necessary in the form of tens, twenties and fifties from your private exchequer! But you would have the satisfaction of ridding the columns of your journal of the supply dealer, the queen-breeder, the inventor of all the various adjustable, automatic, self-spacing, self-acting, reversible, non-swarming, wire-bottom, queen-and-drone-excluding, non-conducting, indestructible, time-and-labor-saving devices; the honey-dealers and various other drones and barnacles that are now sapping the life-blood, aye, the very marrow out of "the spinal column of our business!" These would all flee like rodents from a burning ship. They would know that they are not wanted.

What a grand achievement! Contemplate this glorious triumph! Behold yourself, Mr. Editor, perched upon the highest pinnacle of fame—the very apex of the aforesaid spinal column! Physically, from the terrible strain of this stupendous contest, more than likely you would succumb—but what is the sacrifice of one hero as compared to the salvation of many? Rest assured, however, you would never be forgotten. A magnificent shaft would mark your last resting place, with this epitaph:—

"ALAS, POOR YORRICK!"

He labored "honestly, earnestly, fearlessly and conscientiously" to save "the spinal column of our business," and—broke his own back!

*Requiescat in pace.*

Pardon me, Mr. Editor, for occupying so much of your valuable space, but I do feel like adding an earnest word of encouragement and congratulation to you. I know what it is to be a publisher and an editor. I know what the cost is, and what the income ought to be, but usually is not. I know the many difficulties and obstacles by which an editor is hampered, because I have been there myself. I can say honestly and frankly, that your journal will compare favorably in quality of contents, in variety of topics, in general make-up, and particularly in typographical appearance, with any other class journal of the same price extant. Your co-workers and principal correspondents seem to be men of honest purpose in writing on the various topics relating to apiculture, and I have often wondered that you were able to secure so much excellent talent; and I believe that every intelligent, unbiased

bee-keeper who reads your journal, will agree with me in saying that 52 numbers of the American Bee Journal are worth just \$10—if they take enough interest in apiculture to read it regularly and thoroughly.

Your faithful and progressive efforts in the interest of apiculture deserve not only the support and co-operation of every progressive bee-keeper, but also the most substantial and liberal patronage of every one who can make the use of your advertising columns profitable. Evanston, Ill.

[Thank you, Mr. Hoffman, both for the kind testimonial for the American Bee Journal with which you close your eloquent article, and for the clear and comprehensive manner in which you have elucidated the "vague ideas" of a wonderful would-be critic! As I now fully understand what is necessary to a *perfect* bee-literature; and as no doubt my readers must by this time be aware of the true spirit which prompted the writing of the most useless essay in question (and which never should have been assigned in the first place), this number will be a good one with which to end further discussion on this subject in the American Bee Journal.—EDITOR.]



### That Italian Bee-History—Not Historical Facts, but Unreliable Statements.

Reply to C. J. Robinson, the Historian—

By M. M. Baldrige, of the "Far West."

The Good Book says: "All men are liars." Now, if this be true, then both Mr. Robinson and I are included. I plead guilty, of course! "Whom the gods would destroy, they first make mad." The latter part of that citation must apply, I think, to Mr. R.

As there has been a change of weather since my article on page 311 (1894) was written, I will now resume and conclude my examination of what I designated therein as "simply a symposium of unreliable statements." They will be found on pages 118 to 120 of the American Bee Journal for 1894, and I will do my very best to give them substantially as printed:

1. I challenge any one, says Mr. Robinson, to point out any incorrect statement recorded by me.

Before I am through, I think even Mr. R. will admit that I have pointed out not only one misstatement, but several of them. Now keep both eyes and ears open and see.

2. Mr. Parsons says in his official report, made to the Chief of the Patent Office, and printed on page 543 of the Agricultural Report for 1859, that "he purchased ten (10) colonies of Italian bees for the government, and ten (10) colonies for himself."

Now there is not one word in the report Mr. R. refers to about Mr. Parsons buying any bees for himself! I know this is true, for that Report lies right in front of me as I write this. And there is no excuse for such a misstatement from one who claims to be a reliable historian.

3. Mr. Parsons reported that he made a contract with one Mr. Hermann to buy ten (10) colonies of Italian bees for the Patent Office, and personally to transport them, in original hives, to America, but Mr. H. sent an Austrian, a Mr. Bodmer, instead.

I don't know what report Mr. R. refers to for this statement, but I do know that Mr. Hermann was not to accompany Mr. Parsons' first purchase of ten (10) colonies of Italian bees, and in original hives, to America; and I also know that Mr. Bodmer did not accompany them at all. In short, no one came to America in charge of said purchase. The truth is, Mr. R., by not knowing the facts, has two separate importations of Italians so mixed up in his head that I must, by and by, try to explain matters more fully, then he will see the blunder he has made.

4. Mr. Langstroth says, on page 82 of the Bee Journal for 1881, that said bees were landed in New York April 19, 1860.

No, no, Mr. Langstroth has said nothing of the kind. He simply said that one of the importations of Italian bees was landed at that date, but Mr. L. did not say that it was the first importation of Italian bees that was landed there through Mr. Parsons' efforts. It may be news to Mr. R., and perhaps for the first time, to learn through me, that the ten (10) colonies of Italian bees were not in cigar-boxes, but in original hives, and that they were landed in New York several months prior to April 19, 1860. A few of those bees were still alive,



and were shown by Mr. Parsons to Mr. Langstroth, on the latter's first arrival at Mr. Parsons' home in the spring of 1860. See what Mr. L. says on that point in his article in the American Bee Journal, page 82, 1881.

5. Mr. Langstroth fixes the date of his visit to Mr. Parsons' apiary in the spring of 1856, whereas no Italian bees were imported direct from Italy until 1860.

Mr. R. knows, as well as any one can know, that Mr. Langstroth did not make said visit until the spring of 1860, and that the year, as printed, is simply a typographical error. What Mr. R.'s purpose can be for misrepresenting this fact can perhaps be best explained by himself. And are you sure, Mr. R., that no bees were imported direct from Italy, through Parsons, until 1860? It seems that you are not aware of the fact that those ten (10) colonies of Italian bees, in hollow-logs, left Genoa, Italy, for America, in the fall of 1859, and that they were landed in New York prior to 1860. There must be some history about Italian bees that you have not heard of before.

6. Mr. Langstroth says there were some Italian bees consigned to Mr. Mahan in the shipment that was landed in New York April 19, 1860, but this cannot be true.

Mr. Langstroth says the Italian bees that were landed in New York April 19, 1860, were in small boxes, and that they were in three separate packages; that one package was consigned to the United States government, one to Mr. Mahan, and one to Mr. Parsons. As Mr. Langstroth was present, and Mr. Robinson was not there at all, and for other good and sufficient reasons, I rather think we had better give Mr. L. credit for stating the truth about this matter.

7. Mr. Parsons had only two Italian queens in the spring of 1860. In the spring of 1861 Mr. P. advertised in the American Bee Journal that he would mail a circular in regard to the Italian bee to all who applied with stamp, in which would be found testimonials as to their superiority over the black variety from Messrs. Langstroth, Kirtland, Brackett and Baldrige, "when the facts were that neither man had an opportunity to see a working colony of Italian bees."

Now the foregoing seems to have given this "Italian bee historian" a deal of trouble, and he evidently thinks he has now not only cast reflection on Messrs. Langstroth, Kirtland, Brackett and Parsons, but also upon the writer—the party who then lived in the "far West." Now the fact is, all the parties whose names are given, had more or less Italian bees in 1860, and from the Parsons' importation, too. I got Italian queens as early as June, 1860, from Mr. Parsons, and when I sent in my report, Oct. 25, 1860, I had eleven (11) colonies of Italian bees. In fact on that date I had two (2) colonies, as my report shows, that had no native bees among them. I also know that the other parties named had enough Italian bees when they made their reports to Mr. Parsons to state certain facts about them. We stated nothing that any one should be ashamed of. I have still in my possession one of the circulars to which Mr. R. refers, but I have no space here to quote from it what any one of us said about our experience with the Italian bees. But I have said enough to show that Mr. R. makes a misstatement, malicious or otherwise, when he asserts that none of us had ever seen "a working colony of Italian bees." And, as for my being a resident of the "far West," Mr. R. knows better. He knows very well, unless his memory has betrayed him, that in 1860 I was a resident of western New York, and that my postoffice address was Middleport, Niagara county. I will also add that the Parsons' circular referred to is dated Jan. 1, 1861, and not in the spring of that year.

8. Prof. Riley says on page 208. American Bee Journal, 1893, that the Italian bees brought by Mr. Hermann for the United States, and as agent for S. B. Parsons, arrived in May, 1860, "and he quoted from the government records."

Prof. Riley is a man who would not misrepresent a historical fact knowingly. I do not think he got his data "from the government records," Mr. R.'s statement to the contrary notwithstanding. I am advised that his data were supplied him by another party who was evidently misled in regard to the matter. There is no record anywhere, that is reliable, to show that there were ever any Italian bees, consigned to the United States from Italy, that landed in New York in May, 1860.

9. Mr. Langstroth found on his arrival at Mr. Parsons' apiary, in the spring of 1860, one Italian queen alive in a hollow log. Afterwards, April 19, 1860, Mr. L. found another Italian queen alive in a cigar-box, in the package consigned to Mr. Parsons from Italy, and he treats the consignments as one shipment.

Oh, no! Mr. L. does nothing of the kind. This is simply

nothing more nor less than one of those "unreliable mis-statements."

To conclude: It is now pretty generally admitted that Mr. Langstroth is the peer of any bee-keeper living, whether in Europe or America, and the fact may yet dawn upon the bee-keeping world that Mr. Parsons, who has been so maliciously misrepresented by Mr. Robinson, is the peer of Mr. Langstroth.

M. M. BALDRIDGE.

St. Charles, Ill.

## The Sunny Southland.

CONDUCTED BY

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY, BEEVILLE, TEX.

### Report of the Southwest Texas Bee-Convention.

BY F. A. LOCKHART, SEC.

(Continued from page 134.)

#### THE MOST PROFITABLE RACE OF BEES.

Question No. 16.—Which is the most profitable race of bees to keep?

Mr. Graham—Italians.

Mr. Lockhart—For me and my location, Carniolans. Some find fault because they can't find the queens readily. I have 50 colonies of 5-banded bees, and I can find a Carniolan queen as easily as the 5-banded.

Mr. Theilmann—I prefer Italians.

Dr. Marshall—I prefer Italians.

Mr. Bankston—I prefer the 5-banded Italians. I have tried blacks, 3-banded, and most other races, and the 5-banded are my bees.

Mrs. Atchley—I believe the Italian bee will go farther for honey, and gather it from deeper flowers, than any other race of bees. It has been said that some one made a test by filling a tumbler full of honey and stretching a piece of cheese cloth over it, and the Italian bee reached honey the longest. I think it is going to be a close race the next few years between Carniolans and the 3 and 5 banded Italians.

Mr. Theilmann—I found bees working on red clover, and as some say Italian bees can gather honey from red clover while blacks cannot, I will say that I did not see any difference. But I think Italians will go farther, and hold out longer than the black bees. All in all, I should say Italians are the most profitable bees to keep.

Mr. Flornoy—If it be two races only that is meant in this question—blacks and Italians—I will say that I would not give one Italian colony for three of black bees.

Mr. Graham—When we look at this question from a money stand-point, I think there is no doubt but Italians are ahead of blacks, although it is said that black bees cap their honey whiter than Italians. But Italians gather more honey.

Mr. Lord—I think in a test case we should compare extracted honey to see if there is any difference in the honey, as the Italian bees do place the capping right on the honey, giving the comb somewhat the color of the honey; but this alone should not be a serious objection, because the Italians are only trying to give good measure, while the blacks are a little short, and when a customer is schooled in this it will make no difference. I say Italians.

Mr. Victor—I favor Italian bees first, last, and all the time.

Mr. Lockhart—This is the point I have in favor of Carniolan bees: They will gather as much as Italians, and cap it as white as blacks. I will say Carniolans.

#### WHAT ABOUT PATENTED HIVES?

Question No. 17.—Are there any patents on hives to-day that cover any essential points in the best method of managing bees or getting more honey?

Mr. Graham—I believe it is now pretty generally understood by bee-keepers that all patent hives are humbugs.

Dr. Marshall—I think the main thing to do is, to do away with everything that don't pay, whether patented or not.

Willie Atchley—While we are talking about patent hives, I wish to relate a little incident that occurred while Mr. Hanna and I were out hauling bees some time ago. We met a patent hive man, and I began to question him. He told me he was getting a barrel of letters from A. I. Root, wanting to buy his patent, etc., and very soon I began to wind him up on

that point, and he wound up very short with, "Look here, young man, you are too d— young to learn me anything about bees?" We marked him down a fraud, and went our way.

#### NATURAL VS. ARTIFICIALLY-REARED QUEENS.

Question No. 18.—Are artificially-reared queens as good as natural queens?

Dr. Marshall—I have had some queens that were short-lived, and sometimes I thought likely they were not reared right. But as bees are subject to man, I think likely that just as good queens are reared by the latest improved methods. Queens sometimes get injured in the mails, and may not lay well.

Mr. Bankston—I have a little experience in queen-rearing, and I find that when we take an egg, or only a few hours' old larva, to rear queens with, and place the cell-cups in strong and prosperous colonies, there is no difference in the length of life or vitality. I do not know so well about queens being injured in the mails, as I have had queens sent me from Italy by mail, and they would lay and do as well as any queens. But some may get injured in transit.

Mr. Lockhart—We have new queen-breeders springing up every year, and they think they understood all about the business when they do not, and rear queens that are short-lived and an injury to the honey-producer and queen-rearer also. I never had but one man say I reared queens that were short-lived, and that was Mr. Quigley. He may have been mistaken. I am of the opinion that queens properly reared, either artificially or otherwise, are all right.

Mr. Victor—All the queens I have ever gotten by mail were good, and I do not know how they were reared. I do not think they were injured any by being sent by mail. I am no queen-breeder, therefore I have but little experience, as I know it is a trade separate from honey-producing.

Mr. Bankston—I know that some good queen-breeders rear some sorry queens. I do myself, and I think I am getting pretty good at it, but I am learning more and more every year, and have been at it five years now.

Mrs. Atchley—I am satisfied that short-lived queens are caused more by the queen being reared from a larva too old, than from any other cause, and I have given this matter serious thought for the last few years. Just think of the queen-breeder holding the reins of the honey-producer, and I tell you there is room for serious thinking when the weight of such responsibility is resting upon the breeder, as a lot of poor queens may destroy the honey crop of the producer, and be a great loss to him. I would suggest that all queen-breeders should be over particular in rearing and selling queens. I have tested the matter of natural and artificial queens, and find no difference, when the queens are properly reared.

Mr. Theilmann—As I am no queen-breeder, I will not attempt to say which is best, if any difference at all. But I wish to say that while we are talking about queens, that I have seen it mentioned that it injured queens to cage them when they were in full laying condition. I had a good chance to test that matter at the beginning of my honey-flow, and while the queens were in full laying condition I killed all the queens, except a few of the best ones, and these I caged for 20 days, and then turned them loose again, and they were just as prolific as ever, and it did not injure them.

Mrs. Atchley—Yes, it is said by Doolittle and others, that queens are injured by being caged while they are in full laying plight, but I have also tested it, and find it does not hurt them.

Mr. Atchley—Laying queens, while they are full, need food constantly, and will die very soon if caged alone or without food; but with plenty of food and bees, it will not hurt them, in my opinion.

Mr. Lockhart—That is about my opinion also.

#### WORMS BOTHERING BEES.

Question No. 19.—Do moth-worms bother bees worse in the South than in the North?

Mrs. Atchley—I have often said, when I lived in the North, that a bee-keeper never had occasion to complain about moths. But I must take it back now, as that is one of our greatest drawbacks here in this extreme southern country. They will increase faster than the bees, sometimes.

Mr. Lord—I think some bees will keep the moth out better than others. I noticed that a colony once would go out into an empty hive and destroy the moth in the combs.

Mr. Theilmann—I find that moth-eggs are carried in by the bees on pollen. I think the eggs are laid in the flowers, and the bees gather them with the pollen. I cannot say whether moths are worse in the South.

#### CLOSING INCIDENTS OF THE MEETING.

At this time Dr. Marshall had to leave, tendered his thanks, and expressed his gratitude for the honor conferred upon him by appointing him chairman, and said the meeting had been a source of great pleasure to him. He appointed W. R. Graham to preside over the further proceedings of the meeting, and after a hearty hand-shake by all, he departed.

Willie Atchley was now called upon to exhibit his queen-rearing fixtures, and go through the course of rearing queens. This he did, showing how queens could be reared, dipping cells, grafting and moving the cells, and gave a full lesson from first to last, which excited the curiosity of all present.

A card was read from Dr. Miller as follows:

MRS. ATCHLEY:—I thank you for your invitation to your bee-meeting, but how could you expect me to go off so far when I've spent all my money for sugar? My! wouldn't I like to be there. All the Texas bee-keepers I have met are a whole-souled lot. There was Judge Andrews, and later Dr. Lay, then last year I met Friend Graham and Mrs. Sherman. Say, give my best wishes to the whole crowd, please.

Marengo, Ill.

C. C. MILLER.

The following came from the editor of the American Bee Journal:

MRS. ATCHLEY:—Kindly remember me to all the convention, and tell them that I wish them a Happy New Year, with lots of honey in 1895.

GEORGE W. YORK.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20, 1894.

It was then moved that we organize a South Texas Bee-keepers' Association. This met with a hearty second, and all seemed "in for it." With W. R. Graham in the chair, the names of all were taken that wished to become members. They are as follows:

E. J. Atchley	W. R. Graham	J. M. McKenzie
Jennie Atchley	M. R. Graham	Mrs. J. M. McKenzie
Amanda Atchley	Mrs. Maggie Graham	James McKenzie
Willie Atchley	S. D. Hanna	George McKenzie
Charlie Atchley	Henry Hanna	Miss Leah McKenzie
Napoleon Atchley	Fred Cooke	Gertrude McKenzie
Ives Atchley	Mrs. Bell B. Raymond	T. H. Stevens
Thos. York Atchley	Miss Ella C. Howard	T. J. Skaggs
C. B. Bankston	Frank Hickson	Max Brauer
Page Bankston	C. Theilmann	Mrs. Max Brauer
Isaac Bankston	W. C. Gathright	Miss Hettie Thetford
W. O. Victor	A. S. Osborne	Miss Belle Thetford
F. A. Lockhart	Mrs. A. S. Osborne	Miss Annie Thetford

It was decided that we elect by ballot the officers for the next year, which resulted as follows: President, E. J. Atchley; Vice-President, S. D. Hanna; Secretary, F. A. Lockhart; Treasurer, W. O. Victor; and General Solicitor, Mrs. Jennie Atchley.

Two places were put in nomination for holding the next meeting. Beeville and Wharton were named, and the choice resulted in Wharton getting the next meeting.

A collection was taken for the purpose of having the minutes printed in pamphlet form. The Secretary was ordered to have 200 copies printed.

The convention all arose to extend their thanks and gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Atchley, and all their family, for their kind hospitality. Such a thing was never known at a bee-convention, that a beef, a hog and a sheep, as well as a large number of turkeys, were barbecued, and the whole assembly fed and taken care of by one family, and plenty left to feed as many more. What you did miss by not being at this convention!

The convention was asked to rise and join with Miss Hettie Thetford, the organist, in singing "God Be With You Till We Meet Again." Then, with a good old-fashioned hand-shaking the convention adjourned to meet at Wharton, Tex., June 10, 1895.

F. A. LOCKHART, Sec.

## Questions AND Answers.

CONDUCTED BY

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.

[Questions may be mailed to the Bee Journal, or to Dr. Miller direct.]

### Management for Increase and Surplus Honey.

I have 10 colonies in the 2-story 8-frame dovetail hive, apparently in good condition, that I wish to run for comb honey the coming season. We have a light honey-flow commencing in April and lasting until October, but our main flow is from basswood in July and heart's-ease in September. How



will I manage to increase to 20 colonies and get the most surplus, leaving the bees in 2-story hives in good condition for winter? G. M.

Southwestern Wisconsin.

ANSWER.—A good deal depends upon your experience and also on the season. If it's a very bad season it isn't wise for you to try to double your number. Of course you can do it, no matter what the season is, and then you may lose them all before the next spring. Very likely your best plan is to let them swarm naturally, putting back or doubling up second swarms. Or, you may prevent second swarms by the methods frequently given.

#### Thought it Was Foul Brood.

I have four colonies of bees, two of them having been swarms last June. About July 10 I saw symptoms of what I thought was foul brood. Some brood died before it was sealed, and some appeared to be nearly full-grown, with little holes in the capping. I took about 130 pounds of honey from the four colonies, and they were strong and full of bees in the fall, with no signs of the disease left. I have Root's "A B C of Bee-Culture." S. K. B.

Conestogo, Ont.

ANSWER.—There may and there may not be foul brood among your bees. Study very carefully your book, and be ready to examine the bees carefully when they fly in the spring. I can hardly give you any better instruction than is given in the book you have, for Mr. Root has had much experience with foul brood. From your description of the case it would be impossible to decide positively.

#### Carniolans vs. Italians as Honey-Gatherers.

Are the Carniolan bees as good honey-gatherers as the Italians? J. W. B.

ANSWER.—Referring to their gathering qualities alone, I suppose they're neither better nor worse than Italians.

#### Irrigated Land for Bee-Keeping.

What kind of a location for bee-keeping is irrigated land, in Idaho Falls, Idaho? S. O. L.

ANSWER.—Irrigated land is just as good as any other, and in one respect better, for it doesn't suffer so much from drouth. The only question is whether honey-plants in abundance are found there. Do they raise alfalfa?

#### Sections Pulling Apart.

I have had trouble with the sections in the lower super pulling apart when removing them from the hive. I have never had any trouble in this line until the past season. I use the one-piece sections in a Simplicity hive. I have one colony from which I took 75 pounds of fine section honey last season; this colony has not sent out a swarm in the last four years. S. W. S.

Hannibal, Mo.

ANSWER.—It is hard to tell without knowing more of the case. What kind of a super contains the sections? What is there between the top-bars of the brood-frames and the sections? And be sure to tell us more about that colony that hasn't swarmed for four years and gives good crops. What's the size of the hive it's in? What kind of bees are they? Are your other bees of the same kind, and in the same kind of hives? If they are, this is the one I'd breed from.

#### Preventing the Propolizing of Sections.

If sections are closely covered by a cloth over them, will that not prevent the bees from propolizing them? N.

ANSWER.—I can only answer from my own experience in such matters, and from what Geo. G. Scott says on page 34—others may have a different experience from mine. I made a pretty thorough trial of enamel cloth as a covering for sections, and I think it is about the worst thing I ever tried. The bees would push in a little glue between the cloth and the sections, that would raise up the cloth, then more glue would

push the cloth still higher, until sometimes there would be a space to allow the bees to burrow between the cloth and the sections. So there would be a streak of glue along the edge, and sometimes clear across the top of the section, that would be from a sixteenth to nearly a quarter of an inch thick. I suppose it would be the same with any kind of cloth.

Friend Scott gives as a successful remedy the plan of covering the sections with a pattern slat. I can only say that with me they do the same thing as with the cloth, only the line of glue never departs far from the edge, and it does not become so thick. Bees will crowd glue in between such slat and the sections, and although the middle part of the section top is left entirely clean, the edges are so badly daubed that, on the whole, the "layer of air" is the best covering I have yet tried. If Friend Scott, or any one else, finds something that is really better, I shall be glad to hear of it. I don't say but what the slat may work all right with him, but it doesn't for me.

#### Enamel Cloth—Shade Boards for Hives.

1. Please describe the enamel cloth used in hives. Where and how is it used? Is ordinary table oilcloth as good? and is not "ducking" sometimes used?

2. Is it necessary, in hot weather, to put a shade or board over the hives? L. G. C.

ANSWERS.—1. Enamel cloth is something like common table oilcloth, but plain black, and not so heavy. Table oilcloth will do as well, but is more expensive. It is used to cover directly over the frames to keep the bees down. Duck and heavy sheeting are used, and almost any kind of cloth will answer for a time, especially if put on during the honey harvest or at the close thereof, so as to be well coated with bee-glue. At the present time none of these things are as much used as formerly, flat board covers coming down within a bee-space of the frames being liked better.

2. Not absolutely necessary, but it is generally better.

#### Simpson and Spider Plant—Pleurisy Root.

Do you know anything about the spider plant, and the Simpson honey-plant? Are they bad to spread, or hard to get rid of in case they get a start? What about the pleurisy root? M. C. B.

St. Paris, Ohio.

ANSWERS.—I have had both the spider plant and the Simpson honey-plant. In fact the latter grows wild here, but in very limited quantity. Neither of them are bad to spread. Although I gave them much encouragement, there isn't a plant left of the spider plant, and scarcely one of the Simpson honey-plant, although I had about an acre of it.

Pleurisy root is a milkweed, but the milk is only in the root. You know the milkweeds that grow cottony seed-pods three or four inches long? Well, this is one of them. It has orange-colored flowers.

#### Distance Swarms May Fly.

1. How far may a colony of bees fly when they leave the parent hive to seek a new home? 2. May they fly further than they may to gather honey? 3. May they fly further than queens may to mate? J. L. S. □

ANSWERS.—There's no rule about it. It's a little like asking how far a boy will go after berries, only the boy may give up without getting any berries, and the bees will find some kind of a stopping-place, if it's only a limb of a tree in the open air. Sometimes, and perhaps nearly always, they may know where they're going when they start, but I think there is a belief that sometimes they start without any particular destination, and may make their journey at several stages.

2. I think they may. And they may go only a few feet.

3. I think they may.

**That New Song:**—"Queenie Jeanette"—which is being sung everywhere, we can send you for 40 cents, postpaid, or club it with the American Bee Journal for one year—both for only \$1.20. Or, send us one new subscriber for a year (with \$1.00), and we will mail you a copy of the song free.

**Please Remember** that I am not a dealer in bee-keepers' supplies, so do not send to me for a catalogue, etc.—EDITOR.

# The American Bee Journal

ESTABLISHED IN 1861  
OLDEST BEE-PAPER IN AMERICA

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EDITOR.

Assisted by the following Department Editors:

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MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY	THE SUNNY SOUTHLAND.
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"BEE-MASTER"	CANADIAN BEEDOM.
DR. F. L. PEIRO	DOCTOR'S HINTS.
REV. EMERSON T. ABBOTT	NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Vol. XXXV. CHICAGO, ILL., MAR. 7, 1895. No. 10.

## Editorial Budget.

**Mr. Thomas G. Newman**, in a letter dated Feb. 22, wrote me: "I am laid up for repairs with la grippe again." I hope that it will not lay him up (or down) so hard as in former years. But "the grip" is not overly tender-hearted.

**Mr. W. A. Pryal**, of North Temescal, Calif., is "getting pictured" a good deal these days. The Bee Journal printed his phiz Jan 31, and Gleanings showed him up in its issue for Feb. 15. If Mr. Pryal is a fair sample of the California bee-keepers, they are nice folks.

**On the Fence**, is where Editor Root has put me beside Mr. Hutchinson, on a certain subject. All right, seeing its not made of barbed-wire. Mr. Hutchinson and I agree on most subjects, and when we can't agree we just "agree to disagree." That always keeps things pleasant between us.

**Honey for Brain-Work.**—A writer in the British Bee Journal has a friend, who is a well-known author, and who says:

You may like to know that my doctor told me, and I amply proved it by experience, that in doing hard brain-work there is nothing better for the work than pure honey.

It seems to me I've heard somewhere that fish also is good brain-food. What with plenty of honey and fish, bee-keepers ought all to have a good supply of non-overworkable brains.

**Four Extra Pages** are added this week to accommodate a few Premium and Clubbing Offers that will well repay a careful examination (see pages 161, 162 and 163). It is hoped that many of you will then go to work to earn some of the Premiums, and that others will take advantage of the liberal Clubbing Offers in renewing their subscriptions to the American Bee Journal. It is a mutual matter—the publishers of the Bee Journal want to help you, and in return would like to have you help them. Why not every present subscriber send in one or more new names at \$1.00 each before April 1—before the hurry of spring and summer work comes on.

The larger the subscription list of the Bee Journal, the better the paper will be in every way. Just send on a big storm of renewals and new subscribers. If any of us get "snowed under" and suffocate here in the office, a proper notice will appear in due time. A big "blizzard" of mail will be expected in a short time.

**Apicultural Literature** receives a little more attention in this number of the Bee Journal, as you will see on page 149. Well, the "poor thing" needs a good deal of nursing, in some localities, if it is ever to develop into anything worthy the name of "Apicultural Literature." The following comments and suggestions from Dr. Miller are so good and to the point that I feel they should be read by everybody. It is specially hoped that the article by Mr. Hoffman, on page 149, and this from Dr. Miller, will be "honestly, earnestly, fearlessly, conscientiously and faithfully considered" by the sweet-tempered, Apollo-like essayist whose classical production was printed on page 99:

MR. EDITOR:—Apicultural literature seems to be in a bad way, judging from Mr. Heddon's essay on page 99. The trouble seems to be confined entirely to Gleanings and the American Bee Journal. Well, why not let the old things go, and instead of trying to reform them, read some of the other papers.

The editors of those two journals are such as can neither "write or select first-class articles." Bad, isn't it? And the sad part of it is that although other papers have started and given up the ghost, these two continue to live and flourish. Must be that bee-keepers rather like their writings and selections.

Some statements are a little puzzling. "The good old American Bee Journal has fallen into nothing but an echo of Gleanings." And yet everything in its columns is credited to other men. "Its editor is not a bee-keeper, having no practical knowledge of the business." And yet he keeps more bees than its editor of 10 or 20 years ago when all was lovely. Gleanings' editor is "a bee-keeper of over 20 years ago." And yet 20 years ago he was a boy in his teens, for the younger Root, a practical and enthusiastic bee-keeper, now takes care almost entirely of the matter that pertains to bees.

"Why is it more difficult to make a living out of our business now than it was 10 and 20 years ago?.....Something is wrong, and our literature is mainly at the bottom of it." So all that's necessary is to get out the old files of bee-papers of 10 and 20 years ago, read them over, and refrain from reading anything later, and then the flowers will yield just as they did then!

Marengo, Ill.

C. C. MILLER.

**A New Bee-Association.**—On Feb. 9, the State of Washington Bee-Keepers' Association was organized, at North Yakima, Wash., with J. W. Beck as President, Chas. Lee Vice-President, Orlando Beck Secretary, L. C. Brown Assistant Secretary, and Isaac Hayes Treasurer. It started off with 11 charter members.

The bee-industry in Yakima county, Washington, is becoming an important factor in their wealth and prosperity. There is a lucrative market for honey, and probably no place in the West is more conducive to success in its development. I trust the new association will be very prosperous, and the means of spreading much helpful apicultural knowledge in that region.

**Blamed the Bees!**—Messrs. F. I. Sage & Son, of New York, sent in the following clipping, with this remark: "Funny bees in 'Hold Hingland:'"

THE BEES TO BLAME.—A Bristol (England) druggist, who was charged with selling beeswax adulterated with solid paraffine, pleaded that the bees themselves were to blame. It appears that English hive-owners place within the reach of the bees artificial comb foundations for making their comb. The result is honey with a decided admixture of paraffine.

That's a pretty good joke on our English bee-brethren! The idea of feeding bees "artificial foundations for making their comb!" And then, to think that should result in "honey with a decided admixture of paraffine!" Those "English hive-owners" should subscribe for the British Bee Journal, and then—read it!

**Sacalina** (the new plant shown on page 113) seems to be creating quite a stir in some localities. Mr. Geo. H. Eversole, of New Mexico, whom Mr. Dadant quoted, has written to the Bee Journal about it as follows, dated Feb. 21:

I send you a clipping from Farm and Home, concerning sacalina or sacaline. The people around here are nearly wild about it. It is claimed to be the greatest forage plant known, and, as its name indicates, it is a succulent plant. I have seen some seed of it, and they resemble parsnip seed. I have an idea that it is a good plant for bees, and that is the part I am concerned in. I hope you will try to find out something concerning its value for bee-pasturage, and let the many readers of the American Bee Journal know its value in that line. As it has seeds, it stands to reason that it has flowers, and the probabilities are that the flowers contain honey.

GEORGE H. EVERSOLE.

The "clipping" referred to by Mr. Eversole reads thus:

Sacalina is a new forage plant that is being introduced. It is described as an enormous bearer and very nutritious. In France



it has made a wonderful record, and is highly endorsed by many eastern agricultural experimenters in this country. At the Iowa agricultural college it grew 14 feet high by June, and it is estimated that one cutting may be made every month. Once planted it stands forever, as the roots are deep runners. Like all other novelties, it should be tested on a small area before investing heavily in it.

I hope those who are interested in testing sacaline will heed the last sentence in the above quotation. It doesn't pay to go very fast on most new things. "Slow but sure" is a good motto. No bee-keeper cares to plant a noxious weed, in the hope of getting a good honey-plant. Try things on a small scale first, and then, if all is well, "wade in" if you think best.

**Boys, Bees and Bear.**—The following will interest the younger readers of the Bee Journal, particularly the boys:

A schoolmistress asked her class to put the nouns "boys," "bees," and "bear" into a sentence. The scholars thought intently for a few moments, when one ragged youngster, with a look of victory on his face, raised his hand. "Well, Johnny," said the school-teacher, "what is your sentence?" "Boys bees bare when they go in swimmin'." The teacher did not call on any more of her class.

## Among the Bee-Papers

Conducted by "GLENER."

### WORKERS CARRYING EGGS OR LARVÆ.

Herr Reepen, the great German gleaner, sturdily opposes the idea that workers carry eggs or larvae from one cell to another, and yet he has most faithfully given all the testimony favoring such belief. He now sums up as advocates, Langstroth, Wagner, Root, Abbott, Americans; Editors Bertrand, Wathélet, French; but Germans and English seem to be absent from the list. [I have personally seen a worker carry an egg (not larva), but what it did with it I cannot be positive. I was not interested at the time, and so did not take the pains to follow the bee up.—Ed.]—A "Stray Straw" from Gleanings.

### HONEY-HOUSES FOR OUT-APIARIES.

Harry S. Howe reports in Gleanings that W. L. Coggs shall has in each of his out-apiaries a house containing an extractor and all the things needed for use in the apiary. Saves much hauling. His nine houses cost about \$30 each, are 12x16 and 8 feet high at the eaves, made of rough lumber but having good floor and foundation, so as to support the weight of honey.

### HONEY AS A DIET.

A writer in Gleanings deploras the fact that honey seems to be so little used, even in the families of bee-keepers, says the price of honey is undeniably high as compared with other sweets, and sadly asks, "Will the price have to come down? and can we afford to produce it profitably at a lower price? or shall we maintain the price and limit the production to the amount consumed by those who use it only as a luxury?" Whatever may be the best answer to his questions, you may count on one thing for certain, and that is that every individual bee-keeper, just so long as he stays in the business, will do his level best to produce just as large a crop as he can.

### LATE-REARED QUEENS.

H. L. Jeffreys says in Gleanings that very late queens are least likely to swarm, are the steadiest layers, live the longest of any queens, and are the strongest of any, because they are not exhausted while young, in early production. He also thinks that it is possible that a queen may be injured by being too much restricted in laying for want of room.

### AMOUNT OF STORES NEEDED IN WINTER.

Doolittle says in Gleanings that after 17 years' trial he finds 25 pounds of stores for those wintered out-doors, and 20 for those cellared, about the right amount to last from October till May, or from flowers to flowers, that is, so that no feeding need be done in the spring. After 10 years' trial, he finds that no feeding will be needed before the first of April, and not often then, if each colony wintered out-doors has 18 pounds, and each colony in the cellar 12 pounds.

See Premium Offers on pages 161, 162 and 163 of this No.

## Canadian Beedom.

Conducted by "BEE-MASTER."

### Echoes of the Ontario Convention.

The editor of the Bee-keepers Review has a long, appreciative and critical notice of the Stratford meeting, from which the following paragraphs are taken:—

#### THE ONTARIO BEE-KEEPERS' CONVENTION.

I am just home from attending the above convention. The Secretary asked me to contribute an essay, and Mr. John Myers of Stratford, where the meeting was held, most cordially invited me to be his guest while attending the convention—in fact, I was treated as I always have been whenever I have been in Canada, as though too much could not be done to make my visit a pleasant one.

I left home about 11 o'clock at night, and, as I stood on the threshold and looked back at the bright, shining coal-fire, and the woman standing beside it with a wistful, beseeching look in her eyes that seemed to say, "Don't go," and then I looked out and saw the street and air full of whirling snow, and visions of blockaded trains arose in my mind, I will confess that it required some courage to shut the door from the outside.

Once snuggled away in the Pullman sleeper I soon forgot everything until when, about five o'clock in the morning, the porter poked me in the ribs and said, "Most to Stratford, sir." If anything, the storm was worse than in the night, and I almost feared that the convention would be a pretty slim affair, but it seems that our brethren across the line, with their great fur coats, and caps, laugh at such storms. Dr. Duncan, who must be in the neighborhood of eighty, drove in some 12 or 15 miles, if I remember aright. Sometimes he had to get out and tramp and break a road through the drifts before he could get through with a team.

For genuine enthusiasm in attending conventions, the Canadians beat us. There must have been nearly 100 in attendance. Not only are their conventions well attended, but they are never dull. One thing that contributes largely to the spice of their meetings is that some of the members are very outspoken. Nothing is ever allowed to pass unnoticed or unchallenged. The least attempt at unfairness, or irregularity, or any mistake, is promptly challenged, and names are spoken and statements made with a freedom that would be truly refreshing were it not that some trifling matter is often made the basis for a long, sharp and personal debate. It should not be forgotten, however, that the Ontario Association is really a more complex affair than the associations on this side of the line! There is the grant of \$500 per year that must be used to the best advantage; there is the election of officers and directors, and the appointing of a foul brood inspector; then there are the affiliated Societies and committees on this and that, and, taken all in all, there is abundant opportunity for a conflict of opinions and views, but the Association is a power for good, and its discussions of practical subjects second to none.

There was quite a little talk about out-door wintering versus cellar-wintering. All agreed that if bees could have one good flight in the winter, out-door wintering was advisable. The difficulty is in not knowing whether the coming winter will furnish this warm spell. When there are several warm winters in succession, or winters in which the bees get a flight, then out-door wintering becomes popular, while a like number of severe winters leads bee-keepers to put their trust in cellars. Many who were present said that with them there was not one winter in ten when bees would get a winter flight.

Giving bees protection in the spring after they were taken from the cellar found no supporters. It was pronounced both expensive and unnecessary. Mr. Pettit said that bees could be wintered with as much assurance of success as in the wintering of any other stock, and when pressed to tell just how it should be done he went very briefly, yet concisely, over the necessary requisites for successful wintering. Preparations must be commenced in July. Each colony must have a good queen and an abundance of good stores. The bees should be put into the cellar after there is no hope of further flights, and before the beginning of freezing weather. He placed considerable stress upon the manner in which his hives were stacked up in the cellar. The entrance extends the whole length of the front of the hive. The back of the hive is raised  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch from the bottom-board, and hive, bottom-board and all is tilted up until the back of the hive is three

inches higher than the front. The assertion was made that the cold air entered at the lowest opening (the front entrance) and the warm air left the hive at the highest opening (the back), thus creating a better system of ventilation than is secured when a hive is in a level position. The hive covers are not carried into the cellar, the hives being covered with quilts and cushions to retain the heat. He would have the temperature somewhat lower than the orthodox 45°, thereby securing more perfect ventilation inside the hives. Just what the temperature should be depends upon the behavior of the bees. When the bees are perfectly still they are wintering perfectly. If they are obliged to fan to get rid of foul air, or to keep themselves warm, they are wearing themselves out, and are really old bees when taken from the cellar in the spring. Anything that disturbs the bees sets them to feeding the queen, and breeding results, and that means diarrhea and death.

One very enjoyable, and I think useful, feature of this meeting was the holding of a "Honey-Bee Concert" one evening in a large hall. To this the general public was invited. There was music, the singing of songs, speaking, and Bro. Holtermann gave a lecture on bee-keeping, illustrating his remarks by pictures thrown on a screen by means of a magic lantern. Very catchy, illustrated programmes were distributed among the audience, opportunity being taken to weave into the programmes as much instruction as possible showing the value of honey as a food. The lecture and speeches were also intended to give to the public those ideas in regard to honey and bees that would be most advantageous to bee-keepers that the public should know. That genial, thorough-going bee-keeper, J. B. Hall, was made President, and I hope to be at Brantford next year and see him preside.

W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

Mr. Hutchinson is quite right in saying that there is greater freedom of speech at Canadian bee-conventions than at those held in the United States. John Bull has a tougher hide than Brother Jonathan, and rather enjoys a lively discussion. As Mr. Hutchinson says, this prevents the meetings from becoming dull, and puts a degree of spice into them. It must be admitted that a trifling matter is sometimes made an occasion for long, sharp, and personal debate, but a good chairman will not let that go very far.

Mr. Hutchinson is quite right in referring to the proper use of the government grant, as one of the causes for conflict of opinion. The feeling was strongly expressed at Stratford that too much of the public money had been spent on trips to Ottawa to secure legislation which some thought needless and useless. But Canadians have a fashion of yielding to the will of the majority, after a matter has been thoroughly ventilated by free discussion.

Mr. C. A. Ouelette, publisher of the Practical Bee-Keeper, who also carries on an aparian supply business midway between St. Thomas and Detroit, has this to say about

#### THE STRATFORD MEETING:

This being the first meeting of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association which it has been my pleasure to attend, I am not in a position to compare it with its predecessors in this very important association, but from all reports it seems to have been one of the largest and most representative in the history of the Association. Either the location was more favorable, or the interest in the assemblies is on the increase. I trust the latter is the true reason.

The "brotherly" element was out in force. This may or may not be all right, but it certainly looks queer from a business stand-point. It seems to me that business should be conducted along business lines. It is not my business to call Brown a brother simply because he is growing a field of wheat across the fence from my own. He is my neighbor; he may be an acquaintance or even a friend, but he certainly is not my "brother." Of course these remarks of mine must be taken *cum grano salis*—I am not a brother bee-keeper; I am a business man.

I regretted to see signs of discord among the directorate and to find that the best and most prominent men were in the minority. What is the cause of this? Drive away the best men from a community or organization and what is the result? True, I admit you must give the young and new aspirants a chance to advance, but this should be done cautiously and not so as to be a detriment to said community or organization.

In corporations, organizations, societies and associations we find plenty willing to assist who have not the ability, and others who have the ability will not act, but when we find men of acknowledged ability who are willing to act, then the best interests of such community or association are preserved

by causing such men, if possible, to retain their positions. Personal feelings should give way to the good of the association.

Among the essays read was one on "Education," by Allen Pringle. It is quite likely that this essay will be ignored by the bee-papers—the Review is just to hand and never mentions it. It will be ignored, not because it was not both entertaining and instructive, but on account of Mr. Pringle's ideas on the supernatural. As I understand the matter, Mr. Pringle was asked some two years ago to prepare an essay on "Education," to be read at the Association meeting, but that he never consented to do so till this year and then with the understanding that it was to have been read at one of the evening sessions or entertainments. Mr. Pringle's views on religious matters are well known, and although I, myself, with the great majority, do not think as he does, still he has the courage of his convictions, and apart from his religious opinions his wide range of knowledge, his integrity and his honesty have earned for him a wide respect and reputation. Mr. Pringle on rising to read his essay said:

"Had I known that I was to read this essay in regular session of this association, I would never have consented; and if it hurts the feelings of any of you, you must bear with me."

While not agreeing with Mr. Pringle's position on the supernatural, I must acknowledge that his essay otherwise was a masterly one and contained subject-matter for a great deal of thought, and as Mr. Pringle said, if the feelings of any were hurt they should, under the circumstances, have borne it.

C. A. OUELETTE.

Mr. Ouelette has referred in very proper terms to the one great drawback of the Stratford meeting, which was the exclusion of some of the very best members of the Association from positions of prominence in the management. The case of Mr. McKnight is especially to be regretted and censured. No man has done so much to make the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association the power for good that it is, as Mr. McKnight. He has worked untiringly for the interests of bee-keeping in Canada, and has the respect and confidence of bee-keepers on both sides of the lines to an extent not exceeded, if equalled, by any other man within the limits of Canadian beedom. On his retirement from the office of Treasurer of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Society a couple of years ago, he was presented, by his fellow-directors, with a handsome gold watch, in appreciation of his pre-eminent services to the association—a proud distinction not attained by any other bee-keeper on the American continent. Mr. Ouelette well says that to drive away the best men from an organization—men who are able and willing to work for the general good—is most detrimental to the welfare of such organization, and that personal feeling should never be carried to such a length. It is to be hoped that the mistake which has been committed, and the injustice which has been perpetrated, will be corrected at the next annual meeting. Meantime, Mr. McKnight may rest assured that the rank and file of Canadian bee-keepers regard him as a good and faithful servant, who has been punished for doing his duty.

**Read and Study** out subjects of interest; and be ready to begin the ensuing season's work promptly, with an adequate comprehension of the extent of the business to be conducted, and a just appreciation of the detail therein involved.—*Quinby*.

**Queens and Queen-Rearing.**—If you want to know how to have queens fertilized in upper stories while the old queen is still laying below; how you may safely introduce any queen, at any time of the year when bees can fly; all about the different races of bees; all about shipping queens, queen-cages, candy for queen-cages, etc.; all about forming nuclei, multiplying or uniting bees, or weak colonies, etc.; or, in fact, everything about the queen-business which you may want to know—send for Doolittle's "Scientific Queen-Rearing"—a book of over 170 pages, which is as interesting as a story. Here are some good offers of this book:

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**A. C. BROSIUS, Cochranville, Pa.**

12E13 Mention the American Bee Journal.

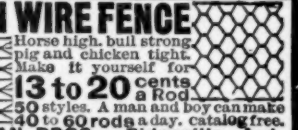
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**M. H. HUNT, Bell Branch, Mich.**

4Etf Mention the American Bee Journal.

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10E5 Please mention the Bee Journal.

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## Dovetailed Hives,

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## Question-Box.

In the multitude of counsellors there is safety.—Prov. 11-14.

### Best Thing to Brush off Bees.

**Query 961.**—What is the best thing with which to brush bees off a comb?—Calif.

**W. G. Larrabee**—The bee-escape.

**G. M. Doolittle**—I always shake the bees off.

**P. H. Elwood**—A Coggs hall bee-brush, it is said.

**Jas. A. Stone**—I have always used the wing feather of a turkey.

**R. L. Taylor**—I use a large quill from a turkey's wing, but I don't know what is best.

**Wm. M. Barnum**—The "Yuba (plant) brush." A fine turkey-tail feather will answer.

**Prof. A. J. Cook**—A turkey feather is good. The brushes sold for the purpose are excellent.

**Mrs. L. Harrison**—I prefer asparagus, for if it gets sticky I can get fresh, and it costs nothing.

**Chas. Dadant & Son**—Asparagus tops or very soft vegetable brushes. Ours are always home-made.

**Mrs. J. N. Heater**—I use a yucca brush, or whisk broom, though there may possibly be something better.

**Eugene Secor**—I don't know. I never used everything. Asparagus tops are the best thing in reach of me.

**Dr. J. P. H. Brown**—A young peach sprig; next, a tuft of long grass. Animal substances are objectionable.

**E. France**—I go to the broom-makers, and have made to order, out of very fine corn, a very thin brush-broom about 6 or 7 inches long.

**B. Taylor**—A single stiff feather from a turkey's wing is what I use, and I know of nothing better. Bee-escapes are the best for general use.

**C. H. Dibbern**—I have never found anything better than a small wisp broom made from the green stems of bluegrass, and they cost nothing, either.

**Rev. M. Mahin**—About four or five small heads of broom-corn tied firmly together. The heads of broom-corn should be quite small and of uniform size.

**J. E. Pond**—Anything that will brush them off without injuring them. I have used with success a soft broom brush, and do not think anything better can be found.

**Dr. C. C. Miller**—If no regard is to be taken of convenience or durability, a big bunch of asparagus, or some kind of weeds, tied together. For a brush to be always ready, Coggs hall's broom.

**Mrs. Jennie Atchley**—I don't know what is the best thing. I use a brush made of corn-shucks torn to shreds and tied to a flat handle or paddle, and this suits me best of anything I have tried.

**H. D. Cutting**—The best thing I know of is a good, strong shake in the right direction. If you must brush, I cannot say what is best. A wing from a fowl is good; a stalk of broom-corn I found a help.

**J. A. Green**—One of the stiff feathers from a wing of a goose or turkey, with about half the feathered part cut away. A brush made of good hemp or sisal fiber is also excellent, and for quick work superior.

**Rev. Emerson T. Abbott**—I do not know. I have never found anything that I thought was very good. However, since I come to think of it, I do not brush them. I just let them walk off through an escape.

**G. W. Demaree**—I have tried nearly everything, and I now use a light brush-broom made of the finest broom-corn, and like it best. We have a species of "tongue grass" in this locality, which, if cut and dried at the right stage, makes the best bee-brush that I have used.

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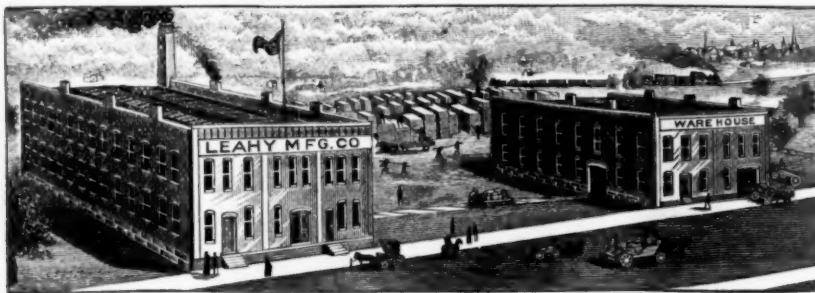
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I have about 3000 lbs. of Basswood Honey for sale at 7 cents per lb., in 60-lb. cans, on board cars. I will guarantee it strictly pure.

2A John Wagner, Buena Vista, Ill.

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## "I TOLD YOU SO."

MRS. ATCHLEY:—The 19 1-frame Nuclee I bought of you last year with Untested Queens, gave me 785 lbs. of section honey and 175 lbs. of extracted honey, besides some unfinished sections. The best one gave me 120 one-pound sections well filled.  
Heber, Utah, Oct. 9, 1894.

J. A. SMITH.

Now, didn't I tell you it would pay to ship Bees north to build up and catch the honey-flow? Bees by the Pound, on a Comb and Honey to last the trip—\$1.00; 10 or more Pounds 90c. per pound. NUCLEE—\$1.00 per Frame; 10 or more Frames, 90c. each. Untested Queens to go with them [same as Mr. Smith got] 75c. each.

UNTESTED QUEENS—by mail, either Leather-Colored Italians, 5-Bands, or Carniolans—\$1.00 each; \$5.00 for 6; \$9.00 per Dozen—till June 1st., then 75c. each; \$4.25 for 6, or \$8.00 per Dozen.

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## Doctor's Hints

By DR. PEIRO, Chicago, Ill.

### The "Grippe."

Did you ever have it? I am glad you haven't, but if you should be visited by this subtle caller, you will never forget the impressions he leaves in his wake. Perhaps an introduction to the Grippe's methods may prepare you for his advancements, and enable you to extend a less friendly greeting than is your usual custom to visitors of whose objects you are less informed.

He approaches you very gently, does the "Grippe"—simply extends a chilly hand at first until he has gained admittance into your system, then he proceeds to make you feel very uncomfortable—"creepy" all over.

The chills chase each other all up and down your back, playing hide and seek around your ribs. Then the knees begin to jar and tremble, the hands shake, and your stomach feels "gone"—for all the world as if you were about to have a real, old-fashioned "chill" late in the fall! Well, but this is only the beginning. In 24 hours—may be less—your pulse comes up, indicating a little fever—just enough to keep the whole system stirred up. Pretty soon you'll have a headache, a tightness in your chest, perhaps some cough, maybe your bowels incline to looseness, and maybe not—this cold-blooded infliction doesn't serve everybody just the same.

Well, within 48 hours you simply feel bad all over! Hardly sick enough to go to bed, and not well enough to stay up. All you know is that you feel shiftless and cross, and want to go somewhere and hide yourself.

Well, now if no complications occur (lung fever is most likely), why, you can shake off the Grippe comparatively easy. Absolute quiet in a warm bed, not a thing to eat for 24 hours, and only hot buttermilk to drink—all you want of it. After that time toast, with the yolk of a soft-boiled egg three times a day is permissible. You see, Mr. Grippe is like any other selfish visitor, if you don't feed him pretty well he gets mad and leaves you. And, of course, that's just what you want!

In a few days you will be quite able to resume your regular work and diet. But neglect these precautions, and results may be decidedly serious!

### Cold Winters.

It is a mistake to suppose that the coldest weather is the most healthy, that during extreme winters the least sickness results. Statistics and personal observation entirely refute this old notion. Indeed, we may trace the most violent and fatal epidemics occurring during the intensest cold seasons.

It is in the very cold winters that diphtheria and scarlet fever assume their most virulent forms, and thousands die from pneumonia and other lung diseases. Moderate seasons are usually the healthiest, and the diseases that do occur are mild in form, and seldom of a fatal nature.



## Honey & Beeswax Market Quotations.

CHICAGO, ILL., Feb. 7.—The weather has been so cold that it prevented the shipping of comb, and the trade has been light to local dealers. Choice white comb sells at 14@15c. There is demand only for that put up in excellent shape. As a rule, dark grades are slow, prices ranging from 9@10c.; good, light color, 12@13c.  
Beeswax, 27@28c. R. A. B. & Co.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 27.—Up to the present the sales on honey have met with our expectations. We have received considerably more honey than we figured on handling, owing to the short crop report, and we think the early shippers reaped the benefit. However, we are now getting the average price, viz.: Fancy, 15c.; white, No. 1, 14@13c. Extracted, 6@7c. Beeswax, 28@29c. J. A. L.

CINCINNATI, O., Feb. 20.—Demand is quiet for all kinds of honey. Best white comb honey sells at 14@16c. in the jobbing way. Extracted, 4@8c.

Beeswax is in good demand at 23@28c. for good to choice yellow. C. F. M. & S.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 7.—The demand for both comb and extracted is light. Supply good. We quote: No. 1 white comb, 1-lbs., 14@15c.; No. 2 white, 12@13c.; No. 1 amber, 13c.; No. 2 amber, 10@11c. Extracted, white, 6@6½c.; amber, 5@5½c.; dark, 4½c.  
Beeswax, 22@25c. C. C. C. & Co.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Feb. 15.—Comb honey is very plenty and slow of sale at 12@13c. Extracted in fair demand at 5@6½c.  
Beeswax scarce at 30@31c. W. A. S.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 21.—The honey market is very quiet. We quote: Fancy, 13@14c.; choice, 10@12c.; off grades moving slowly, trade being only on fancy; buckwheat slow at 8@10c. Extracted very dull at 5@6c.  
Beeswax, 28@30c. B. & Co.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Feb. 20.—We are gradually working down our stock of comb honey, and the indications are that we will succeed in disposing of all of the white honey and possibly all of the dark during the spring, at following quotations: Fancy white, 1-lbs., 12c.; fair, 10c.; buckwheat, 8@9c. The market is well supplied with extracted honey. Demand is fair for choice grades, while common stock is neglected. We quote: White clover and basswood, 5¼@6c.; buckwheat, 5@5½c.; Southern, 45@55c. per gallon, according to quality. Beeswax firm and in good demand at 30@31c. H. B. & S.

**SHIP** Your Butter, Eggs, Poultry, Veal, Beans, Potatoes, Hides, Pelts, Wool, Hay, Grain, Green and Dried Fruits, or ANYTHING YOU MAY HAVE to us. Quick sales at the highest market price and prompt returns made. Write for prices or any information you may want.  
**SUMMERS, MORRISON & CO.,** Commission Merchants,  
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## List of Honey and Beeswax Dealers,

Most of whom Quote in this Journal.

### Chicago, Ills.

J. A. LAMON, 43 South Water St.  
R. A. BURNETT & Co., 163 South Water Street.

### New York, N. Y.

F. I. SAGE & SON, 183 Reade Street.  
HILDRETH BROS. & SEGELKEN,  
28 & 30 West Broadway  
CHAS. ISRAEL & BROS., 110 Hudson St.  
I. J. STRINGHAM, 105 Park Place.

### Kansas City, Mo.

CLEMOMS-MASON COM. CO., 423 Walnut St.

### Buffalo, N. Y.

BATTERSON & Co., 167 & 169 Scott St.

### Hamilton, Ills.

CHAS. DADANT & SON.

### Philadelphia, Pa.

WM. A. SELSER, 10 Vine St.

### Cincinnati, Ohio.

C. F. MUTH & SON, cor. Freeman & Central avs.

## General Items.

### Best Year for Honey.

Bees are wintering tiptop in this locality, in the cellar so far. Last year was the best for honey in many a year. I have lived in this county 29 years, have kept bees 25 years, and in all those years I never knew bees to bring in honey in such quantities, and for so long a period—mostly gathered in the month of September. The honey was of a superior quality. We use shallow frames, and 8 of them in a hive. We are expecting a large honey-flow the coming year, as the country has been burned over, and in the burnt districts wild flowers will be in abundance. L. ALLEN.

Loyal, Wis., Feb. 15.

### Late-Reared Queen.

I have experienced exactly the same as W. J. H., on page 22. I bought a colony of bees at a sale five years ago, and they never swarmed. The were in the Falconer chaff hive, and died. One year later I cleaned up the hive to introduce a new colony, and could not. Trying to put them in at the entrance I got all in but a few, and finding the queen running to and fro, trying to get in and could not. On examining the hive-entrance, I found it to be but 3-16 of an inch, which excluded the queen, of course. If W. J. H. will examine his hive, he may find it in the same condition as I did. If you should find your colony queenless, get a good Italian queen and introduce early in the spring. A. M. SENFF.  
Kochs, Ohio.

### Fears the Very Cold Weather.

I got last season 1,000 pounds of comb honey, and sold nearly all at 15 to 20 cents per pound. I put in 34 colonies in good condition for winter. They haven't had a flight since the middle of December. This has been a very cold winter. The mercury dropped to 24 degrees below zero almost every morning for over a month. It is 10 degrees below this morning. I am getting a little uneasy about the bees' too long confinement. Such cold weather is dangerous. If such weather continues much longer, there won't be very many bees next season. G. W. BELL.

Bell's Landing, Pa., Feb. 12.

### The Past Season in Colorado.

I have for some time intended to report my success with bees the past year, but have been hitherto prevented by sickness and press of business.

Last spring I built the shell of a house, and in the fall I had it plastered and finished off—doing my own carpenter work. And so I have had but little time for writing. I am located on Lincoln Park, just across the river (the Arkansas) from Canon City. This park is mostly set to orchards and small fruits. Tens of thousands of fruit trees are in bearing within the reach of my bees. Then there are large fields of alfalfa, beginning within about a quarter of a mile of my yard, and extending for many miles down the river, on both sides. Besides this, the Rocky Mountain bee-plant grows profusely on all vacant spots and waste places about me.

I started in with 24 colonies in the spring, and increased to 36, besides losing an unknown number. I took 1,200 pounds of choice comb honey, besides having about a dozen hives filled with new comb to supersede a lot of old combs in the spring. Of course, these are all filled with choice white honey. My hives were all well filled for them to go into winter quarters. Two of my best colonies gave 184 pounds each, during the season, and I think others would have done as well if I had discouraged swarming as I might. But I want increase as badly as honey at present.

This year, if spared, I want to get an ex-

tractor and see what can be done building up a trade in extracted honey in our market. The honey market has ruled very low here the present season—much of the crop going into the hands of dealers at 9 to 10 cents, by the ton. I think if I am fortunate enough to have a crop to market the coming year, I shall know more about how to get money out of it than heretofore.

We are having a very mild winter, and as far as anybody, except Sam Wilson, can see at present, we have a fair outlook for a good honey crop the coming year.

L. J. TEMPLIN.

Canon City, Colo., Jan. 25.

### Report for 1894.

I commenced in 1892 with one colony of bees, and have now 32, which produced me 1,800 one-pound sections of nice, white honey in 1894. DAN CLUBB.

Monson, Calif., Feb. 13.

### Honey a Total Failure.

Honey was a total failure in this section last season. I didn't get a pound of good honey from 15 colonies of bees. I had to feed them for winter. H. RATH.

Hagerstown, Ind., Feb. 17.

### A Most Severe Winter.

We are having the most severe winter we have had in 10 years—zero weather is the rule nowadays—20 degrees below is the lowest we have had it here. My 43 colonies, on the summer stands, are well packed in chaff and sawdust, with a snowbank over all. The 10 colonies in the cellar are quiet, and appear to be all right.

Clayton, Mich., Feb. 13. C. A. HUFF.

### Not Robbing—Only Flying.

At one time last spring, on a warm day, I was sure my bees were being robbed, and it is needless to say of course that I did every thing I could think of, and finally decided to let things go. But just about that time the American Bee Journal arrived, and on looking through it I found a note on robbing, stating that beginners were apt to think that their bees were being robbed when only the young bees were taking their flight, and described the appearance of things. I at once ran out to my yard, and behold, I had an extensive crop of young bees trying their wings, instead of a quarrelsome mess of robbers! This I could see at a glance after being informed, as a young bee always turns around and faces the entrance when taking her flight. N. T. SMITH.

Weston, Ohio, Jan. 28.

### Some Queer Notions, Etc.

A neighbor recently asked me if there was a secret organization among the bee-men similar to the unions, combines or orders of other pursuits. He has no bees, but has been reading some old numbers of the American Bee Journal and Gleanings, and noticed that the correspondents addressed the editors as Bro. York, Bro. Root, and Bro. Miller and Bro. Doolittle, and one in referring to Mrs. Atchley had the impudence (in his opinion) to speak of her as "Jennie." Does a man have to be blind-folded and climb a greased pole in order to become a bee-man?

Another neighbor, the most practical and the most successful bee-man in this county, said he had noticed all his life that those interested in apiculture were naturally good and religiously inclined; that it took one of a gentle and forgiving disposition to become interested in the business, and I have noticed in a great many of the articles in the bee-papers this idea will crop out, that all bee-men are strictly honest. In a recent copy of the Bee Journal Dr. Gallup says all bee-men in California are honorable men. Is this true? My observation has led me to believe there are just as many

swindlers and *tricky* men among them as in any vocation, and that they will, and do, misrepresent about the fine qualities of a certain strain of bees, just as some farmers will about their horses. Don't you know there are hundreds of "tested" queens sent out every year that were never tested?

I am a novice in the business, but I am very much interested in it, and I believe we have a superior country here for bees. I have never heard of foul brood, bee-paralysis or moths in this section yet, but I have frequently heard of enormous yields of honey. The honey-flow is just as certain as the alfalfa blooms—to say nothing of the honey that is gathered from the orchards, sage and wild flowers. Alfalfa is our main dependence, though, for honey, and it lasts from about June 20 to late in September.

When a swarm absconds, they generally locate in some deserted coyote or badger den in the ground, or in some rocky bluff. There are no trees on the surrounding hills here but juniper, and few of them are hollow.

The American Bee Journal is the best periodical I have seen devoted to bees, but I firmly believe I could live without it, and at the same time have a super filled occasionally with alfalfa honey. One item in a recent number, telling how to have sections filled after the honey-flow ceases, is worth more to me than the year's subscription I paid.

Westfall, Oreg.

#### Queenless Swarm—Hiving Bees.

My father takes the American Bee Journal, but I was not interested in it until I found the editor would let the boys write. So I will try and give a part of my experience with a queenless swarm. The queenless colony that I spoke of in my last, became queenless while being hived. They came out several times, but did not cluster either time. One day they came out but kept flying. When we found they were going back, we moved the old hive away and put a new one in its place. When the bees came back they went in, having no other place to go to. So not having a queen to lay eggs, they soon died from my carelessness in not having looked after them.

In hiving we use a box made of slats, on a pole 5 to 15 feet long. When the bees are alighting in a tree, we put the hiver under them and shake them off into it, and then set it near where those that are flying can find it, but if on the ground we set the hive among them, and they run into it.

It has been so warm here that all of our bees have been flying in the middle of the day, until the last few days when it began to storm. Our bees are hardly ever shut up more than a few days at a time.

I would like to hear from more bee-boys. I am 12 years old, and go to school every day there is school. ROY ADAMS.  
Longmont, Colo., Feb. 9.

#### More Youthful Experience.

I will write you another letter and let you know I am not froze up, if it is cold up here. We are having a cold snap—it was from 30 to 40 degrees below zero a few mornings, but I think our bees are all right. I am a little sick this week, and so I could not go to school, but I am able to read and be around.

In answer to Roy Adams, I will say that father and I have our bees together. I have had bees of my own several times, but they were sure to get mixed with the rest when they were taken in and out of the cellar, and I was generally at school and couldn't keep track of them unless I had them marked. I have all the honey I want anyway, so I don't try to keep them separate, as it bothers pa in extracting and at swarming-time.

Next season, if I am not at some school, I think I will try taking care of the bees and garden instead of cultivating corn. Father almost always extracts all his honey, but I'm going to try to get the premium next

fall on comb honey at the County Fair, if I take care of the bees.

The boys that live down South had better look out, as they are talking about getting "basswood sprouts" to plant. We boys up here know what they are, if we get into mischief. They grow around stumps up here, and are slim and tough, and my! how they hurt when applied in the right manner! We bind corn-stalks with them.

I would like to have some of the boys and girls tell about "how they hived their first swarm of bees," or how they captured a "bee-tree," or some of their experience with bees.

CHAS. W. SANFORD.  
Ono, Wis., Feb. 12.

#### Bees in Weak Condition.

Bees are in weaker condition than I have seen them in many years. They quit breeding unusually early, on account of the dry season of 1894, leaving but few old bees to survive the winter. From reports % of the bees of this county are dead or starved.

M. H. MENDLESON.  
Ventura, Calif., Feb. 11.

#### An Experience with Bees.

I started in the spring of 1892, buying one colony of black bees in a box-hive. I got no increase and no honey the first season. The spring of 1893 I sent for one full colony of Italians, and got them June 3, in good condition. Having their hive full by July 3, I divided the colony, giving each 4 frames, and the queenless part an untested queen. Then I had two good colonies of pure Italians in dovetail hives. The one colony of blacks, in a box-hive, swarmed the second year on June 18. I divided it July 14, giving an Italian queen to the queenless half, and have now 3 Italian and 2 black colonies, and 15 pounds of surplus honey the spring of 1894. The first Italian colony filled 76 pound sections, and did not swarm. The black colonies were Italianized, and all are in 8-frame dovetail hives. I had last fall 125 pounds of comb honey, and 10 colonies of pure Italian bees heavy with honey.

To-day (Feb. 15) two colonies are dead, with the hive nearly filled yet with honey. The bees froze to death.

PAUL WHITEHEAD.  
Hobbie, Pa., Feb. 15.

### —SOUTHERN— Home of the Honey-Bee

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MINNESOTA.—The regular semi-annual meeting of the Southern Minnesota Bee-Keepers' Association will be held on the first Monday in May, 1895, at LaCrescent, Minn. All bee-keepers invited. E. C. CORNWELL, Sec. Winona, Minn.

UTAH.—The Utah Bee-Keepers' Association will hold their semi-annual meeting on Thursday, April 4, 1895, at 10 a.m., in the Fish Commissioner's rooms in the new city and county building, Salt Lake City. GEO. E. DUBLEY, Sec. Provo, Utah.

WASHINGTON.—The next meeting of the Western Washington Bee-Keepers' Association will be held on Monday, April 8, 1895. Subjects of interest to bee-keepers will be discussed. Bee-keepers are invited to attend. Tacoma, Wash. L. D. LITTOOT, Sec.

TEXAS.—The Texas State Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its 17th annual convention at the apary of W. R. Graham, in Greenville, Tex., on Wednesday and Thursday, April 3 and 4, 1895. All interested are invited to attend. "NO HOTEL BILLS." Ft. Worth, Tex. DR. WM. R. HOWARD, Sec.

KANSAS.—There will be a meeting of the Southeastern Kansas Bee-Keepers' Association on March 16, 1895, at Goodno's Hall, in Bronson, Bourbon Co., Kans. It is the annual meeting, and all members are requested to be present, and all bee-keepers are cordially invited. J. C. BALCH, Sec. Bronson, Kans.

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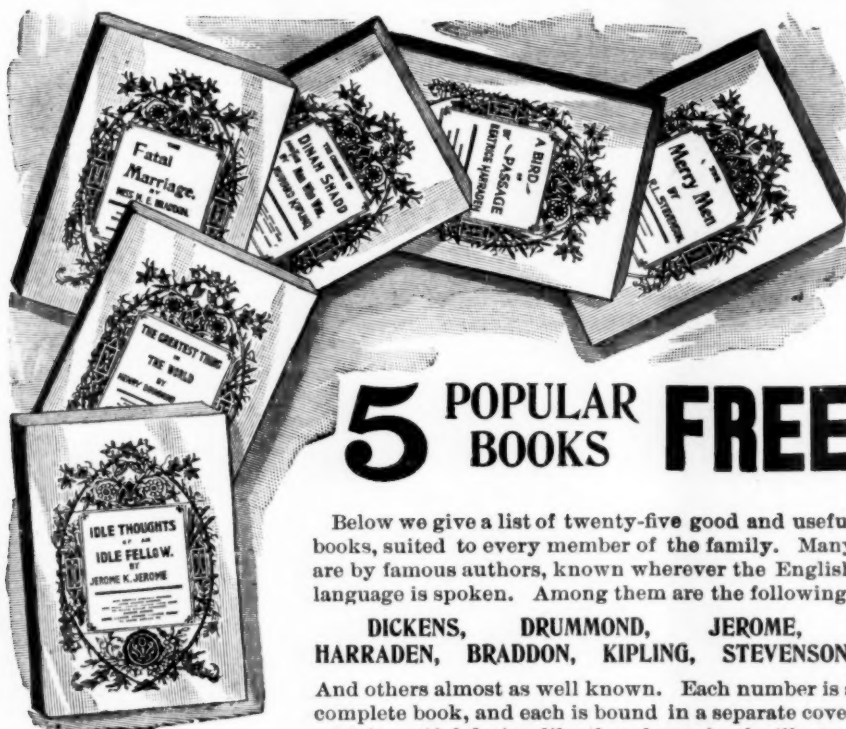
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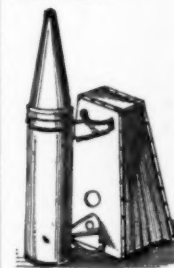
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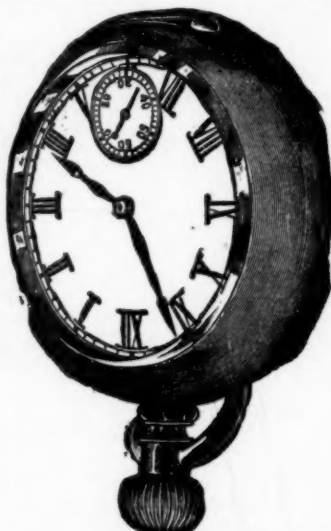
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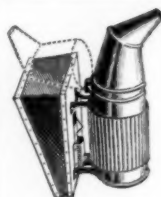
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